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Japan Slump: In America, They Call It A Recession

With Unemployment At 2.2%, Tokyo Asserts It's Merely a Slowdown

> By Paul Blustein Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Japan's economic slowdown reached the status of a full-blown recession Thursday -at least by the American definition —as government figures showed that economic growth turned negative for two quarters in a

The last time Japan suffered a fall in output for two consecutive quarters was during the 1973-74 oil shock.

Gross domestic product shrank by 0.4 per-cent in the July-September quarter, and revised figures showed that GDP also contracted in the rigines showed that UDF also contracted in the previous quarter, by 0.2 percent, the Economic Manning Agency said. GDP measures the economy's total goods and services, excluding exports and imports. The figures are adjusted for inflation.

art Se

"By the U.S. definition, this is now a recession," said Robert Feldman, chief economist at Salomon Brothers' Tokyo office. He was referring to the fact that in the United States, a recession is generally deemed to have occurred when the economy contracts in back-to-back

Until now, the Japanese economy has been most accurately described as being in a pronounced slowdown, decelerating from the supercharged 5 percent annual growth rate of the late 1980s to a pace that is less than half as fast but still posiove.

The Japanese government does not yet consider the economy to be in recession, according to an Ecocomic Planning Agency official, who, said that Japan uses a variety of indicators for its definition. Japanese workers are certainly not suffering nearly as much as their American counterparts are; unemployment stands at 2.2 percent because of the lingering effects of a abor shortage.

Using another measurement, gross national product, Japan's growth was zero in the second quarter and minus 0.4 percent in the third,

which would put the economy just on the bor-derline of a U.S. style recession.

But GDP is widely considered to be the single best measure of a country's domestic economic expansion rate, since it is not distorted as GNP is by factors beyond a country's.

borders.
"These figures show that the economy this year is as bad as 1974, which was the last real recession," said Mineko Sasaki-Smith, an economist at Credit Soisse First Boston. The revised figures for the second quarter were substantially worse than a previous report that had shown both GDP and GNP growth to be positive.

Although Japan endured major slowdowns in 1980, when a second oil crisis struck, and in 1986, when a strong yen severely strained Japan's export machine, growth never turned negative for more than one quarter during those

Most forecasters expect the economy to begin recovering some time next year, perhaps in

the second quarter. Help from the government is on the way. The lower house of the parliament approved an \$86 trillion package of public works and other pump-priming measures this week. The upper house is expected to follow suit, although pas-

sage has been delayed by partisan squabbling over invesogation of a political scandal. Many analysts also believe that the Bank of Japan will give the economy one more dollop of stimulus by cutting the official discount rate again, from its current 3.25 percent level.

China Threatens Hong Kong Pact With Britain

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispate BEIJING - China said Thursday that Gov ernor Chris Patten must abandon his project for democratic reform in Hong Kong or risk

calling into question the hasic agreements covering the handover of the territory in 1997.

"The issue facing the British side is now whether the Sino-British Joint Declaration and the other agreements reached between the two sides are still needed," Li Jianying, the acting Foreign Ministry spokesman, said at a weekly

Mr. Li's statement was Beijing's strongest suggestion yet that it might consider reviewing

Hong Kong stocks tumbled 8 percent as political worries panicked investors. Page 11.

China's entire arrangement with London over Hong Kong unless Mr. Patten dropped his democratic reform package.

At a symposium of Asian business executives in Hong Kong, Mr. Patten said, "We shouldn't be prepared to go further than the people of

Hong Kong are prepared to go."

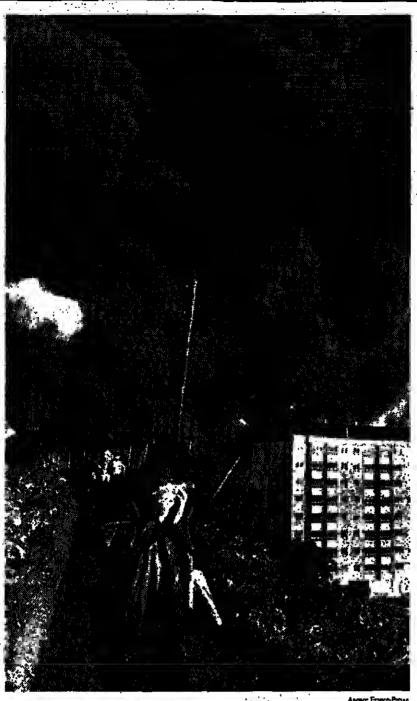
He added, "We shouldn't be prepared to go less far than the people of Hong Kong are prepared to go." Mr. Patten has used the same verbal formula in the past.

The British foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, said Thursday that his government fully supported Mr. Patten's proposals.

"We believe they are a good and wholly justified way forward for Hong Kong," he said.
"It is a good thing if China and Britain, during the period up to 1997, can work together and we would like to do so on this occasion, too," Mr. Hurd said on BBC radio. "But that is not the same as saying the Chinese have the right to tell us what we can or cannot do in

areas that are our responsibility," he added. The 1984 Joint Declaration established July 1, 1997, as the date when China would take

See COLONY, Page 2



A resident fleeing fumes from the burning tanker Aegean Sea in La Coruña, Spain.

A Major Oil Spill Off Spain

LA CORUNA, Spain—A Greek oil tank-er rain aground entering, this until wastern port Thursday and split in two, spilling wast-quantities of crude that threatened beaches

and marine life.

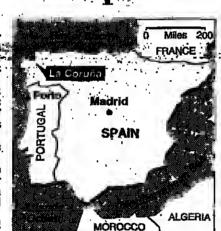
The ship caught fire, and an oil slick about 20 kilometers long by 1.5 kilometers wide was reportedly oczing up the rugged coast of Galicia, where fishing is basic to the region's

Environmentalists said oil-drenched gulls and cormorants had been sighted.

Thick plumes of greasy black smoke from

the tanker billowed over a neighborhood near an abandoned lighthouse in the city on Spain's northwest tip. The police evacuated several thousand residents. Officials said all 29 crew members had

See SPILL, Page 2



Bush Wants Troops Out Of Somalia by Jan. 20

WASHINGTON - As the United States prepared to send 28,000 troops to Somalia to clear the way for humanitarian relief, President George Bush said he wanted the troops in and out of the East African country hy the time be leaves-office on Jan. 20.

With hundreds of people dying daily in So-malia and the collapse of the government there, the United States and its allies were rushing to move in as soon as the Security Council approved the operation. Unanimous approval was

expected later Thursday.

France announced Thursday that it would join the international military force. Belgium and the African nations of Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Kenya were among countries considering sending troops. Britain said it would not con-

tribute troops. A State Department source said the United States and other countries would contribute financially to the operation. In Tokyo, officials said that Japan's contribution would take the form of financial assistance.

The first American units would include 1,800 Marines, followed by 16,000 more Marines and about 10,000 army troops, a Pentagon official said. The Marine force includes helicopters, including some capable of combat operations.

"We obviously would like to resolve the military aspects of it as quickly as possible, and because the president leaves office on Jan. 20," said Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman. "If we could have them out before then, that certainly would be preferable."

aimed at intimidating Somali warlords into allowing free distribution of relief supplies.

You invite those warlords in, bring out an M-I tank, let it blow one of their armored pickup trucks to pieces and say, 'Any ques-tions?" said a Pentagon official, speaking on

condition of anonymity.

Clan battles have raged in Somalia since the collapse of President Mohammed Siad Barre's rule in January 1991, worsening a famine that has killed 300,000 people and put another 2

Well-armed militias, consisting mostly of un-trained young men and boys, have stolen at least half of the food and medicine shipped to Somalia and paralyzed a 500-member UN peacekeeping force in place since September. The port and airport of Mogadishn — the country's two main delivery points — have been virtually shut down by the threat of bandism.

The U.S. military's task, according to the resolution before the Security Council, will be to establish "a secure environment for humani-

tarian relief operations in Somalia." Diplomats at the United Nacons said the vote would be unanimous for the resolution, which authorizes member states to use force against anyone preventing relief supplies from reaching civilians and allows, by implication, an American commander to lead the operation.

In a direct warning to the warlords, the resolution also threatens to punish individuals responsible for the "deliberate impeding" of food and medical deliveries.

that certainly would be preferable."

Envoys worked on the document until the U.S. military officials said it was likely to be a very open display of American firepower, nations that the operation was a genuine effort

to stop mass starvation and not a U.S. venture

ESTABLISHED 1887

to impose its will on a poor country.

But the UN resolution is so vaguely worded that it is not clear who will make the decision to withdraw, and what conditions would have to be met. In the interest of expediency, diplomats tried to gloss over the question of what consti-

tutes a "secure environment."
"I think it's like the elephant coming out of the jungle: You know it when you see it," said Sir David Hannay, Britain's UN representative. Edward J. Perkins, the U.S. representative.

also tried to minimize the issue. He said that the determination of a "secure environment" would be made by Secretary-General Butros Butros Ghali in collaboration with the commander of the operation in Somalia. The decisioo to withdraw troops would be made "in the finality" by the Security Council, he said.

Mr. Perkins's remarks suggested that the United States would not have free rein in Soma-lia, as it did in the multinational force that drove Iraqi troops from Kuwait last year with the Security Council's approval.

Mr. Bush called other world leaders and President-elect Bill Clinton to consult about the crisis in Somalia as the Security Council prepared to vote on authorizing a military opera-tion to protect relief efforts, Mr. Fitzwater said. Mr. Bush met with top military officers and other defense officials Thursday morning.

Mr. Clinton has been "publicly supportive," Mr. Fitzwater noted.

In Little Rock, Arkansas, the president-elect said he was being kept informed by the White House on developments and would withhold See FORCE, Page 3

Harsh Lessons From 2 UN Fronts

In Somali Capital, a Taste

By Todd Shields Washington Post Service

MOGADISHU, Somalia — The giant articulated truck carried a quadruple-barrel and-aircraft gum and a dozen grinning Somali gummen. It was blocking the gate of a villa.

Inside the villa, behind walls topped with broken glass, was the field

commander of the United Nations troops already in Somalia.

He wanted to drive the few hundred yards to the international airport, which his men hold over the objections of the area's main

Some encouraging news for the UN team in Cambodia, Page 2.

warlord. He had to wait a few seconds until the Somali gunmen, with those-atop the truck jeering and gesturing, maneuvered their vehicle

Standing by the gate, watching the ragtag gang, was a UN staff officer in crisply pressed field uniform. He shook his head. ney have all the weapons m the world," he said. problem we face every day."

And so went a routine event in the hot, dusty, sometimes tense, often dangerous and ultimately frustrating assignment of Pakistan's Frontier Force regiment. The 500 soldiers represent the strongest effort to date by the United

Nations to break the stranglehold that extortion and racketeering have placed on efforts to feed Somalia's starving.

But in what may be something of a cantionary tale for the U.S.

See SOMALIA, Page 3

In Bosnia, Rising Casualties Of Troubles That Lie Ahead And an Ambiguous Mandate

By Mary Battiata

Washington Post Service
VITEZ, Bosnia-Herzegovina — On the day they reached full deployment here in central Bosnia, British troops with the UN peace-keeping force decided to drive their gleaming white tanks into the besieged town of Travnik, just down the road.

The tour began well. Muslim and Croadan children and adults.

badly frightened after days of heavy Serbian shelling, crawled out from basement shelters to cheer the parade of armor and the British

Serbian panel bars Milan Panic from running for president. Page 2. Union Jack. Even the Serbian gunners in the surrounding mountains

seemed momentarily cowed and fell silent. As the day went on, however, and British soldiers failed to point their cannon toward the Serbs in the hills, the cheering gradually stopped. To the dismay of the British troops, young Muslims and

The fusillade bounced harmlessly off the tank sides, but the point

"You really can't blame the local people," a British officer said later. "They'd been praying for help from the West for a year. The UN finally arrived in its big, heavy vehicles and the people thought they'd been saved. It's very hard for them to understand why we're not

aiming at the Serbs." Bridging the potentially explosive gap between popular expecta-

See SERBS, Page 2

Kiosk

Car Bomb Kills 14 in Colombia

MEDELLIN, Colombia (AFP) - A car packed with dynamite exploded here as a police patrol passed by, killing 14 people and injuring 19 in the worst attack of its kind in nearly two years, the

police said Thursday.

The bombing turned a police patrol vehicle carrying nine officers into a death trap and damaged scores of nearby buildings that housed restaurants, hotels and stores. Police suspected that Pablo Escobar Gaviria, the fugitive drug lord, was behind the attack. No group took responsibility, but the authorities were convinced it was carried out by the Medellin cocaine

Israel Drops an Official in Harassment Case JERUSALEM (Reuters) - An Israeli secret police official was being relieved of his post following a journalist's complaint that be harassed her, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office said Thursday.

ring in reprisal for recent killings of leading drug figures.

Down 0.49% 90.12

> 1:584 124.67

> 5.3875

The Dollar

124.42

General News U.S. insurers urged a revision of the health care system. Page 3. A Mafia prosecutor, found dead, apparently committed

Business/Finance Two airlines are dueling for a stake in Qantas. Page 11.



The German economy shrank IRA BLAMED IN MANCHESTER BLASTS — Two of the 65 people in the third quarter. Page 13. wounded by bombs Thursday in Manchester being comforted by passers-by as they awaited first aid. Two bombs exploded during the morning rush hour. The police evacuated the city center. They blamed the Irish Republican Army.

Horizons, Lost and Found: Fantasyland in African Fantasy Land

By Bill Keller

New York Times Service SUN CITY, South Africa - You are in

Africa, but in no particular place. The drizzling rain forest says the latitude is tropical. But that grove of pendulous baobab trees, adjusting to their new home across the lagoon-sized swimming pool, implies savannah.

The architecture is neither Luxor nor Marrakesh nor Kalahari game lodge, but something

of each and more so. You're a bit lost. You are, in fact, in the Lost City, the Southern Hemisphere's most audacious and most deafeningly hyped theme resort.

This is Africa as it might have been had Steven Spielberg and Donald Trump conspired to reinvent it for a clientele of sheikhs: a drought-proof, disease-free, nonviolent and nondenominational, \$210-a-night-minimum

Africa with a three-story water slide, an ocean where a panic button stops the waves if a swimmer gets in trouble, a nightly volcanic eruption (featuring "nonallergenic smoke") and a golf course with live crocodiles in the 13th-hole water hazard.

And, because history in Africa is so troublesome, the resort has its own myth - involving a peaceloving, rich, environmentally correct and watersport-loving tribe of founders known as

The Lost City, which opened this week, is the brainstorm of a son of immigrants from Russia who has made a fortune peddling high-priced fancies to South Africans and who now, with the political awakening of the region, intends to

peddle them to the rest of the world. It is a \$300 million gamble that when white rule gives way to democracy in South Africa,

tourists will storm the subcontinent in a spend-ing frenzy, and that they will want to experience Africa, as long as it is not too African.

"I believe that people aren't going to travel all the way to visit us here to see what they could see elsewhere in the world," said Sol Kerzner, the hotel and casino impresario, mus-ing over his 25-hectare (62-acre) domain from a veranda of its hotel, the Palace, a cathedral of blushing towers and blue domes, elephant tusks and kudu gargoyles and thousands of concrete

palm fronds. "And consequently I began to visualize. . . . "I saw a major African jungle with rivers, with waterfalls, with what you would expect in a jungle," be said, "and that the concept would revolve around that, and the animals of Afri-

This fantasy of Africa is 160 kilometers (100

miles) northwest of Johannesburg, within an-other white man's African fantasy — Bophuth-atswana, one of four "homelands" invented by racial scientists in the apartheid heyday as re-positories for unwanted blacks. Its independence is oot taken seriously by any country

except South Africa. When Bophuthatswana was still ocwly minted, 13 years ago, Mr. Kerzner built here the Les Vegas-style Sun City complex as a place where South Africans could escape their society's pu-ritan constraints to enjoy gambling and barebreasted chorus lines in an interracial setting

two hours' drive from Johannesburg. The apartheid fiction of the black homelands has been an asset to Mr. Kerzner's casino empire, which also has resorts in the ostensible

states of Ciskei and Transkei. Homeland law liberated him from the anti-

gaming laws of the motherland, from the South African trade unions that are banned here and from the tediously accountable ways of democ-

Bophuthatswana's president, Lucas Mangope, for example, did not need to fret about protest from drought-stricken farmers and onepump villages when he agreed to build the new water lines that deliver the 9.8 million liters (2.6 million gallons) of water a day to water the Lost City's gardens, fill its lakes and flush the toilets in its 338-room hotel.

But Bophothatswana is oot the refuge it once was. First the anti-apartheid cultural boycott of the mid-1980s put Sun City off limits as a venue for world-class talent. Then a recession, and a proliferation of unregulated mom-and-pop ca-

See LOST, Page 2

U.S. Presence: Somalis Look Beyond Short Term

By Jane Perlez

New York Times Service MOGADISHU, Somalia - The narrowly focused U.S. goal of delivering food to the destitute by military force is viewed by many Somalis, who welcome the intervention, as a sideshow to what really interests them: the end of clan violence and the start of economic reconstruction and political reconciliation.

This mismatch in expectations, with the Somalis seeing the Americans as the eco-nomic and political salvation for their destroyed country and the Americans planning a short humanitarian mission designed to avoid long-term involvement, could quickly turn the operation sour, Somalis and international aide workers say.

Educated Somalis, many whom have been holed up in their bouses in the capital for the last two years watching the country sundered by clan fighting, are talking about the need for U.S. personnel to stay for at least a year. They say it would take that long to solve the problem of the starv-ing, disarm the population and get political and economic reconstruction going.

They talk of schools being reopened, job training for the armed vagabonds and roads being paved, all under the auspices of the United States rather than the United Nations, which in many Somali quarters is held in low esteem.

"The Americans are in for a surprise," said Ahmed Jama, a British- and U.S.-

Paris Vows

It Will Join

UN Force

In Somalia

By Philip Shenon New York Times Service

dered the release of six United Na-

tions military observers on Thurs-

day, a move that UN officials hope

will result in the freeing of the ab-

ducted peacekeepers later this

Lieutenant General John Sander-

son, an Australian who is the senior

UN military official in Cambodia,

"The decision has been made by the Khmer Rouge, It's just a ques-

tion of getting it down to their people on the ground."

The six soldiers — three from

Britain, two from the Philippines

and one from New Zealand -were taken prisoner Tuesday by a band

of Khmer Rouge guerrillas who ini-

tially accused the peacekeepers of

spying for the Phnom Penh govern-

Thom raised new alarm among dip-

lomats and United Nations offi-

cials who have come in fear that the

UN-sponsored peace settlement

Diplomats said they were re-

lieved by the decision of Khmer

Rouge commanders to order the

release of the peacekeepers, who

Compiled by Our Stuff From Dispetches

civil war.

the Khmer Rouge.

The abduction in the central

Cambodian province of Kompong ed to be in good spirits.

cials who have come in fear that the billion UN peacekeeping operation Maoist-inspired rehels of the in Cambodia, demanded that the

Khmer Rouge intend to sabotage a soldiers be freed, saying through a

that was meant to end Cambodia's nant" over the seizure of the men.

"They will be released," said

PHNOM PENH - Senior Khmer Rouge commanders or-

educated former national police chief.

The expectations are very high. The Somalis think they will do a lot of things for them. And if they don't do these things deliver the humanitarian food, then disarm the people and then bring people together for political reconciliation — it

will revert to chaos." Mr. Jama, who was fired in 1989 by the deposed president of 21 years, Moham-

NEWS ANALYSIS

med Siad Barre, after trying to investigate a massacre by Mr. Barre's palace guard, said the longer-term goals were just as vital, even more so, than feeding the

If they were not tackled, Mr. Jama said, a country hrimming with weapons and ammunition from the Cold War superpowers would continue "to fight over what

"This coming and going out is not worth it," he said. "It's just a waste of time. They shouldn't come if that's what it is, because when they leave things will spark up again. They should be here for about a year if they are serious about it"

The aura of goodwill that has surrounded the U.S. plan, and the strength of the U.S. military, meant the armed clan fighters who roam Mogadishu and the countryside might at first submit, according to many Somalis. Mr. Jama, an experienced policeman, predicted only "a number of

Thursday may have been the last day that the security guards in the Mogadishu port, who are supposed to have protected it for food shipments but who have prevented it from working, would get their twice-weekly payment of 56 million Somai shillings (\$20,000) from the UN. Once the Americans arrive, the overwhelming firepower will probably intimidate the security guards - who tool around on armed jeeps known as technicals - and they will disappear, at least temporarily

But this tolerance would evaporate if the Americans carried off an aggressive humanitarian mission but left a power vacuum that a broader, weaker UN force could not replace. Fighters like port secu-rity guards would be back, extorting money as they are now, aid workers and Soma-lis said.

Mr. Jama said

There will be very negative feelings if the security people from the port are told to leave and offered no alternative," said Ahukar Mohammed Dahiye, the bead of the finance department here of CARE. They would want job training that would give them income now raised through gangsterism, he said.

If the Americans deliver only to the

most poorly off 1.5 million or so Somalis. and forget the rest of the population, par-ticularly the urban and displaced population of Mogadishu, unfavorable memories could soon surface, even before the Americans left, Somalis said.

For now, the Americans wear a mantle of approval because they are deemed far preferable to the UN and a more likely solution to the desperation. The UN is viewed with contempt for having failed, after a lot of pronouncements, to resolve the bumanitarian crisis, the lack of security and the lack of governance.

Many Somalis bitterly recall that it was Washington, a Cold War supporter of So-malia in the 1980s, that delivered planeloads of arms to the forces of Mr. Barre as late as 1988, when the already weakened president was staving off a challenge in Hargeysa, the major city in the northeast.

In an assessment he wrote not long after leaving Mogadishu in mid-1989 as the military attache at the U.S. Embassy, Colonel Al Girardi talked of the conflict between American and Somali interests. In doing so, he warned against the kind of U.S. support that many Somalis are appealing for now but that Washington is obviously trying to circumvent

"Sooner or later, the country will be thrown into prolonged and violent tribal conflict, and no amount of U.S. assistance will change this," he wrote.

Set to Free **UN Aides in** Cambodia

Guerrillas

By Philip Shenon
New York Times Service
PHNOM PENH, Cambodia

Senior Khmer Rouge commanders ordered the release of six United Nations military observers on Thursday, a move that UN officials said would probably result in the freeing of the abducted peacekeepers later this week.

"They will be released," said Lieutenant General John Sanderson, an Australian who is the senior UN military official in Cambodia. "The decision has been made by the Khmer Rouge. It's just a ques-tion of getting it down to their people on the ground."

The six soldiers — three from Britain, two from the Philippines and one from New Zealand - were taken prisoner Tuesday by a band of Khmer Ronge guerrillas who ini-tially accused the peacekeepers of spying for the Phnom Penh govern-

The abduction in the central Cambodian province of Kompong Thom raised new alarm among dip-lomats and United Nations officials who have come to fear that the Maoist-inspired rebels of the Khmer Rouge intend in sabotage a UN-sponsored peace settlement that was meant to end Cambodia's civil war.

Diplomats said they were re-lieved by the decision of Khmer Rouge commanders to order the release of the peacekeepers, who were taken captive only hours after the UN Security Council voted to impose economic sanctions against the Khmer Rouge.

The six soldiers were permitted to resume radio contact Thursday with the UN force and were reported to be in good spirits.

Yasushi Akashi, the Japanese diplomat who leads the nearly \$2 billion UN peacekeeping operation in Cambodia, demanded that the soldiers be freed, saying through a spokesman that he was "indignant" over the seizure of the men.

"We want these people to be re-leased unconditionally," said the spokesman, Eric Falt, who despokesman, Eric Pair, who de-scribed the initial response of se-nior Khmer Rouge commanders in the incident as "very unfortunate and surprising." At first, be said, Khmer Rouge officials in Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital, offered no assistance in freeing the six hostages.

The Khmer Rouge, accused of being responsible for the deaths of The Khmer Rouge and the other, in radio contact with their UN smaller rebel factions fought for commanders. more than 2 million Cambodians when it controlled the central gov-ernment in the 1970s, has refused The Khmer Rouge, accused of central government, which was insaid that Khmer Rouge command-stalled by Yietnam after its 1978 more than 2 million Cambodians invasion of Cambodia. Mr. Falt, the UN spokesman, to disarm under terms of the United Nations peace treaty its leaders UN forces, represented by a Rouge since the rebel group, the group of Indonesian soldiers, made commanders insisted, has a policy signed last year.

The Khmer Rouge says it will not disarm and rejoin the peace process until the Supreme National Council --- an all-faction oceanization that includes members from the Khmer Rouge, two other rebel groups and the central government - is given powers now held exclusively hy the government.

The Khmer Rouge and the other, smaller rebel factions fought for

nearly 13 years to overthrow the "It would seem that this was an central government, which was installed by Vietnam after its 1978 myasion of Cambodia. UN forces, represented by a

group of Indonesian soldiers, made contact Thursday with Khmer Rouge guerrillas who took the six soldiers captive.

The Indonesians had been dispatched by the United Nations to attempt to negotiate the release of the hostages and, according to the United Nations, they met with a Khmer Rouge major who appeared to be one of the captors. The Indonesian team carried food and fresh years after the handover. batteries to allow the hostages to remain in radio contact with their

UN commanders. Mr. Falt, the UN spokesman, said that Khmer Rouge command-ers had initially insisted that the captors were not part of the Khmer Rouge since the rebel group, the commanders insisted, has a policy of avoiding confrontation with UN

troops.

The spokesman said that, based on initial evidence available to the United Nations, it did appear that the abductors were a band of Khmer Rouge rebels in Kompong Thom Province who acted without authority from senior commanders

City's gambling revenues.

wana and other homelands are ex-

Until that happens, Mr. Kerzner

independent action," he said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Cairo Sentences 8 Militants to Death

CAIRO (AP) - A military court on Thursday sentenced eight Muslim militants to death, three to life imprisonment and 18 others to lesser izing terms after two sedition trials.

It was the first test of a new anti-terrorist law enacted last summer in counter a marked rise in extremist violence, which has killed 77 people and wounded more than 120 this year. The new legislation empowers judges to impose the death penalty or life imprisonment on those convicted of planning, but not necessarily carrying out, terrorist acts.

The court said the eight people sentenced to death were planning to

"overthrow the system of government, regarded the ruler as an infide, preached rebellion against him and planned to assassinate some govern-

Japan Seeks End of Boycott on Israel

TOKYO (WP) — Moving toward a more even-handed policy in the Middle East, Japan has called on Arah nations to end their economic boycott of Israel. Diplomatic officials here said that Japanese ambassadors in all Arab countries had been instructed to call for an end to the long standing Arab policy of refusing to do business with companies that deal with Israel.

Boycott or no, Japanese companies have been moving into the market, but the Israeli government and Jewish groups praised Tokyo's diplomatic move as pressure on Arab governments that could open the door to

further Japanese investment in Israel. The Israeli foreign minister, Shimon Peres, is to arrive here on an official visit next week, and the anti-boycott activity was apparently timed as a welcoming gesture that reverses Japan's pro-Arah tilt in the

China's Li Calls Hanoi Visit Productive

HANOI (Reuters) - Prime Minister Li Peng of China said Thursday that his visit to Vietnam had brought the two countries closer together, hut Vietnam made it clear that many problems remained between the

Mr. Li told his Vietnamese counterpart, Vo Van Kiet, that he considered his visit a success, and he invited Mr. Kiet to visit Beijing. Mr. Kiet, in turn, said that the visit, the first by a Chinese prime minister in 21 years, would "create a more favorable environment for friendly relations between our two countries."

But Vietnam's foreign minister. Nguyen Manh Cam, at a news conference later, renterated Hanoi's position on sea disputes. Mr. Cam said Vietnam had unnegotiable sovereignty over an area in the South China Sea off its southern coast where China announced plans last May to explore for oil with a U.S. company.

New Greek Cabinet Sets Off Criticism

ATHENS (Reuters) - Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis swore a new cabinet on Thursday amid criticism from friends and foes.

"He gave away ministries to save himself," said the opposition newspaper Ta Nea. The pro-government Eleftheros Typos described the new cabinet as a "hodgepodge of 50 ministers." While Mr. Mitsotakis kept Economy Minister Stephanos Manos and Foreign Minister Mihalis Papaconstantinou, he elevated his daughter Dora Bakoyannis to full minister and assigned 16 years of described to the de minister, and assigned 16 young deputies to serve as junior ministers.

Mr. Mitsotakis, 74, who returned the conservatives to power for the first time in a decade in April 1990, has been assailed by party dissidents for his handling of the economy and foreign policy.

TRAVEL UPDATE

The 1993 Michelin guide to Germany, just published, contains bad news for the East: not a single restaurant in the formerly Communist region merits a star for outstanding cuisine, or even a "good food at moderate prices" rating. In Western Germany, however, Michelin promoted one restaurant to its top three-star category, raising the number of such establishments to three, and two restaurants to two stars, raising the number to 15.

Following renewed political trouble in Zaire, Belgium has advised its citizens not to travel to the former Belgian colony. Security forces sealed off ministry buildings in the capital, Kinshasa, as tension rose between President Mobutu Sese Seko and Prime Minister Etienne Tshisekedi, who

Continental Airlines announced a cut in some postholiday fares of up to 35 percent. The sale fares are available to most U.S. destinations during p the early winter vacation period. The Houston carrier also said it would allow a free change of travel date with sale tickets as long as it is made at least seven days before travel begins. Sale tickets must be bought by Dec. 11 for travel from Jan. 5 through Feb. 14. The maximum 35 percent reduction is available only for midweek travel, while weekend fares will be reduced up to 25 percent.

Finland celebrates 75 years of independence from Russia with a series of events Friday through Sunday. Among the scheduled activities: presentations of the abstract play "Oma Maa" ("Our Own Country"),

music and dance performances, religious services, military parades, and a traditional ball on Sunday at the presidential palace. Nigeria Airways has suspended flights to Rome after an Italian compa-

ny won a court order anthorizing it to seize Nigerian property in pay for a debt owed by Nigeria, a spokesman for the airline said. (Reiners)

Flights in Ukraine have been grounded nearly 10 days by severe fuel shortages and breakdowns in distribution that bave also caused disruptions to rail and road transport, officials said Thursday. Only flights to destinations outside the former Soviet Union had been operating since Nov. 23. There was no prospect of any resumption for a week, according to Volodymyr Karlash, head of the fuel department for Ukrainian

COLONY: China Threatens Pact

(Continued from page 1) control of the colony, and it bound

Mr. Li, who is deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's information department, said Mr. Patten's po-btical moves had forced China to reconsider a number of issues

whether the political system in Hong Kong should converge with the Basic Law, and whether a smooth transition is needed, and added, "All these are matters of principle." The Basic Law will function as the constitution for the territory after the handover.

Mr. Li repeated China's demand, which it has made in ever stronger terms, that Mr. Patten and his of the guerrilla group.

backers in London give up mear

"It would seem that this was an plans to introduce greater democ"The only way to solve the prob-lem now is for the British Hong Kong authorities to return to agreements reached between China and Britain." be said

Mr. Patten's constitutional reform package, which involves making the territory's legislature more representative of local voters when elections are held in 1995, has about Hong Kong.
The Chinese official questioned drawn increasingly sharp threats from China's Communist leaders.

In its denunciations of the reform plan, Beijing has shown it has no intention of allowing a democratic outpost to emerge on its southern coast.

On Monday, China raised the stakes sharply when it said it might tear np contracts it did not like after taking control in 1997. The move could undermine several of Hong Kong's ambitious multi-

billion-dollar infrastructure pro-(Reuters, AFP)

unanimous resolution that those re- an outdoor market in the capital. sponsible be tried for crimes Pristina, killing at least one ethnic against burnanity. Albanian and injuring another, campaign for president on Tuesday against burnanity. Albanian and injuring another, news organizations and an opposiwith a promise to end bloodshed in the region and end Serbia's interna-

al authorities rejected Prime Minister Milan Panic of Yugoslavia on Thursday as a candidate for the spokesman, Zoran Djumic. Serbian presidency, saying he had failed to meet residency require-A spokesman for the electoral commission said that Mr. Panic fornia. He formally launched his

had 48 hours to appeal the decision. If upheld, the decision would end Mr. Panic's attempt to remove his hard-line nationalist rival President Slobodan Milosevic, from the Serbian leadership in elections scheduled for Dec. 20. Mr. Panic heads the government

of the rump state of Yugoslavia, which comprises Serbia and Mon-

Serbian Isw requires all candidates to be citizens and residents for at least a year. Aides to Mr. Panic said he had fulfilled the requirements, having rented a Beigrade apartment in his own name for more than a year.

But the electoral authorities said that Mr. Panic, who returned from the United States to become Yugoslav prime minister in July, bad not heen registered as a permanent resident for long enough.



Call or write for information of resemb for Free Evaluation Pacific Western University

"When Panic rented his apart-BELGRADE - Serbia's elector ment he had only temporary residence; he was a foreign citizen at the time." said a commission

The six soldiers were permitted

to resume radio contact Thursday

with the UN force and were report-

diplomat who leads the nearly \$2

spokesman that he was "indig-

scribed the initial response of se-

nior Khmer Rouge commanders to

were taken captive only hours after the incident as "very unfortunate the Khmer Rouge, two other rebel the UN Security Council voted to impose economic sanctions against Khmer Rouge officials in Phnom—is given powers now held exclu-

Yasushi Akashi, the Ja

Mr. Panic, 62, is a Belgrade native who emigrated and made a fortune in pharmaceuticals in Cali-

(Continued from page 1)

tions and reality is just one of the

immense challenges facing the

United Nations peacekeeping force

as it takes up its historic and dan-

gerous mission in central Bosnia

Paradoxically, it is a mission that could yet trigger the Western mili-

tary intervention it was meant to

At nearly 23,000 troops, the UN operation in Bosnia and neighbor-

ing Croatia is the largest such force

in recent history, and the first to be

permitted the use of force to defend

bumanitarian convoys.

For that reason, and the implica-

tions it has for the mission being

truck convoys into besieged Mus-

But the troops, particularly the 7,000 based inside Bosnia, are sad-

dled with a difficult and ambiguous

mandate. The British, Spanish,

French and other European sol-

diers here have been inserted into a

war that has already killed at least

17,000 people and left an additional 110,000 unaccounted for in the

small Muslim-held territory alone.

The UN troops sit between

heavily armed Bosnian Serb forces

who see them as the enemy and

poorly equipped Muslims and

Croats who cannot understand

why the United Nations is not us-

ing its tanks and guns to help them

"The people here will never un-

derstand why the UN doesn't shoot

back," said Anders Levinsen, the

Danish relief official in charge of

the UN High Commissioner for

In private, British soldiers in

The facts do not contradict that

worked out in late summer, after

Refugees food convoys in Vitez.

win the war.

lim towns cut off by fighting.

There were these related devel- third day because of beavy fighting opment Thursday:

• In Paris, the Assembly of the until Friday at the earliest, said near the airport. It will not resur Western European Union said it Major Juan Villalón, a spokesman had received credible reports of the for the United Nations force. systematic rape and torture of women and girls in Serbian-run · Violence broke out in the Yucamps in the former Yugoslavia.

Somalis in Mogadishu listening to a BBC broadcast in their language for news Thursday of the UN debate about intervention.

fered no assistance in freeing the

when is controlled the central gov-

ernment in the 1970s, has refused

to disarm under terms of the Unit-

ed Nations peace treaty its leaders

Council — an all-faction organiza-

tion that includes members from

six hostages.

signed last year.

leased unconditionally," said the spokesman, Eric Falt, who described the initial research

Penh, the Cambodian capital, of- sively hy the government.

goslav province of Kosovo when Serhian police fired on a crowd at The Assembly demanded in a to Sarajevo was suspended for a tion party reported. (Reinters, AP)

nearly 13 years to overthrow the

contact Thursday with Khmer

Rouge guerrillas who took the six

The Indonesians had been sent

by the United Nations to attempt in negotiate the release of the bos-

tages and, according to the United

Nations, they met with a Khmer

Rouge major who appeared to be

one of the captors. The Indonesian team carried food and fresh batter-

ies to allow the hostages to remain

soldiers captive.

SERBS: Rising Casualties and Ambiguous Mandate tion, the peacekeepers have secured the United States and European roads previously ton dangerous for governments reiterated their deter-relief traffic and escorted dozens of mination to avoid military entan-

glement in the conflict. The UN troops now nearly fully deployed in Bosnia were ordered up in September, when the UN Security Council authorized an allout effort to deliver food to Bosnian cities and towns cut off by fight-

There now are thousands of British and Spanish soldiers on the Muslim-Crostian side of the front line. French and Canadian troops are moving into place on the Serbian side. There is a large multinational force stationed in the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo, and scattered smaller contingents from the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Swe-

den and other European countries. At the UN food warehouse in and split, said Fernando Cano, a Vitez, the radio crackles all day with tense bulletins from UN troops reporting harassment or worse as they labor to keep the roads sale for humanitarian traffic. The UN forces are bound by

rules of strict neutrality.
"We have no enemies here; we're simply bere to save lives," said Lieutenant Colonel Bob Stewart, the commander of the 900 British soldiers headquartered in Vitez.

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SPILL: Serbia Election Panel Rejects Panic's Candidacy Tanker Breaks (Continued from page 1)

of the guerrilla group.

independent action." he said.

been rescued from the blazing ves-sel, the Aegean Sea, which was car-rying about 550,000 barrels of oil.

commanders insisted, has a policy of avoiding confrontation with UN

The spokesman said that, based

on initial evidence available to the

United Nations, it did appear that

the abductors were a band of Khmer Ronge rebels in Kompong

Thom Province who acted without

authority from senior commanders

troops.

By comparison, the supertanker Exxon Valdez spilled more than 260,000 barrels in Alaska's Prince William Sound in 1989 in one of the world's worst oil accidents. The worst spill ever was from the 1979 collision of two supertankers off Tobago, in which more than 1.6 million barrels were spilled. Nearly as much was dumped by the Amoco Cadiz in 1978 on the coast of France, Europe's worst spill.

A spokesman for Lloyd's of London called Thursday's spill a major

disaster, but it was still anclear how much cargo had spilled. Antonio Gomis, a spokesman for the Spanish oil company Rep-sol, which had chartered the tanker, said two or three of the ship's nine segregated tanks had been ruptured. He said each tank carried an

average of 63,000 barrels of crude. We believe about two-thirds of the oil is on the ship, and oil from two or three tanks has gone into the sea." Mr. Gomis said. However, a spoklesman for the Spanish merchant marine, Rafael

Lobeo, said he believed "all of the tanks were damaged." The tanker had been en route from Britain's oil terminal at Sullen Voe to a refinery in La Coruña. Entering the port in heavy fog and high seas, it crashed into rocks at the tip of a promontory on the bay

merchant marine spokesman.

the African National Congress. Mr. Cano said floating barriers designed to stop the spill from spreading were being set up in the harbor. High winds and heavy seas must hedge his bets, keeping simul-taneous peace with his present and future rulers, who despise each othwere hampering the effort. The spill was likely to have an

enormous impact on the fishing He has befriended senior digniand shellfish grounds in the Ria de Betanzos and Ria de Ares, two inlets northeast of La Coruña harbor, according to environmental ex-In May 1976, the tanker Ur-

quiola ran aground and exploded at La Coruña and lost more than 71,000 barrels of crude.

opened his resort to scores of free- of the Lost City.

LOST: Developer Peddles South African Fantasyland loading journalists, Bophuthats-wana planned to hang three consines in South Africa, whittled Sun victed murderers, provoking an outcry from human-rights acrocates in South Africa, where the Now with South Africa on the death penalty is suspended. verge of majority rule, Bophuthats-The hangings were stayed, repected to be reabsorbed into a portedly after an appeal from a Sun country governed, most likely, by

City executive, for 90 days - until well after the Lost City opening and a million-dollar golf tournament and the Miss World pageant scheduled here for December.

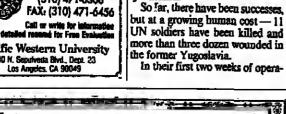
But other woes are on the horizon." South African churchmen have harangued Bophuthatswana taries in the ANC, but its local for its lack of political freedom. representatives still accuse him of The ANC has said it might disrupt sintaining the Mangope regime the Miss World pageant if it turns with Sun City tax revenues and of into a showcase for Bophuthats-bolstering the pretense that Bo-wana's "independence."

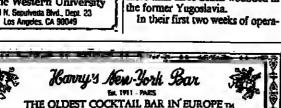
phothatswana is a separate coun- Workers angry over layoffs at other hotels in Mr. Kerzner's Sun The week that Mr. Kerzner chain are contemplating a boycott



And Mr. Mangope has hinted he may resist giving up power to a new South Africa, creating the kind of political crisis that tends to give international tourists cold feet.

contemplated for U.S. troops in Somalia, the expanded UN military escort operation is being close-







VSITION / THE FOREIGN POLICY CHALLENGE



government, the administration's actions

abroad — especially asking the UN to send troops to Somalia — have forced much re-

cent scrutiny to center on Mr. Clinton's

But others involved in advising him on

foreign matters have said they expected

much of the current activity, and that the

"Foreign policy is not the type of issue you can always plan or manage, like formulating a budget or putting together your government," said Nancy Soderberg, a Clinton for-

Nonetheless, Mr. Clinton has taken time

from his schedule to receive telephone calls

from President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia

and a number of other world leaders, includ-ing President Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria; President Frederik W. de Klerk of South

Africa; Nelson Mandela, president of the

African National Congress; Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao of India; President

Leonid M. Kravchuk of Ukraine; the Geor-gian leader, Eduard A. Shevardnadze; King

Fahd of Saudi Arabia; President Roh Tae

Woo of South Korea; President François

president-elect has spent relatively little time

weakest area of expertise.

eign policy adviser.

Health Insurers, Echoing Clinton, Call for Overhaul

By Robert Pear New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - In a sharp break from past practice, the health insurance industry called Thursday for a new federal law that would require coverage for all Americans. define a basic set of benefits and try to contain health-care costs by limiting tax breaks for the purchase of insurance.

The board of directors of the Health Insurance Association of America, representing 270 com-mercial insurers, issued a policy statement arguing that "the insur-ance industry itself needs reform."

The industry has often been de-scribed as an obstacle to change in the health-care system. But with the proposal the industry signals its willingness to accept sweeping changes, many of them similar to those proposed by President-elect In Little Rock, Arkansas

George Stephanopoulos, the chief spokesman for Mr. Clinton, called the development "a real breakthrough." He said the insurance association's support for a national

nomie leader." he told the Caribbean confer-

But he stopped short of using the barsh

Samuel Berger, who is heading Mr. Clin-

He also receives a 15-minute oral briefing

Clinton aides are not entirely in the loop

on the most delicate matters being decided in

them of the need to do so," an administra-

FORCE:

tary plan.

this mission."

Bush's Timetable

(Continued from page 1)

udgment on the developing mili-

"I've been fully informed, but I

need them make a final deci-

sion and to see exactly what's being

Mr. Fitzwater said the goal of getting U.S. troops out by Jan. 20

gives a strong sense of how we see

"We want to make it clear that

this UN force would be designed to

get humanitarian supplies in, not to

establish a new government or re-solve the decades-long conflict

there or set up a protectorate or

"There will need to be some kind

of follow-up UN presence there,

but that is another matter for the UN to decide," he said.

Mr. Bush authorized the airlift to

anything like that," he said.

done," Mr. Clinton said.

on security matters every day that aides say is the same one Mr. Busb gets at the White

language he had employed in his campaign.

ence on trade, investment and development.

"We're in regular contact with the admin- unless we are strong enough to be an eco-

bility right now to work with the UN and to make that policy."

A few months ago he was often highly critical of the Bush administration's refusal to

about foreign policy matters, be has been States as the victims of political persecution.

He has said he generally supports the president's views on sending U.S. troops to Somalia to ensure the safe delivery of relief supplies. He sent a one-paragraph letter of supplies. He sent a one-paragraph letter of supplies to Mr. Yeltsin before his meeting of the National Intelligence Daily to Mr.

When Mr. Clinton has ventured to speak allow Haitian refugees to stay in the United

containment was important because these were "the very principles which Governor Clinton enunciated in the campaign.

We want to work with them. Mr. Stephanopoulos said.

Details of the insurers' proposal remain to be worked out. Many of the unresolved issues are contentious. But Democrats and Republicans as well as business executives and labor unions agree that the United States must do something to belp the 35 million people who do not have health insurance. Carl J. Schramm, president of

the association, said the new pro-posal was in the long-term financial interest of insurance companies.

For more than a year, the insur-

ers have been denouncing proposals for a government-run program of national health insurance that would minimize the role of private

"This is probably the only way you preserve the private health in-surance industry," Mr. Schramm said. "It's plain-out enlightened

Like Mr. Clinton, the insurers endorsed the idea of universal coverage, mandated by federal law, along with new measures to control costs, including a larger role for the government in supervising fees charged by doctors and hospitals.

But the insurers did not support Clinton proposal for an annual limit on all health spending, public and private.

The industry proposal has four main elements:

 Through unspecified tax incentives for employers and tax pen-alities for consumers who do not purchase insurance, the govern-ment would require all Americans to buy "an essential package" of health benefits. If the government fails to achieve universal coverage in this way, then "it may become necessary to require employers to help finance such coverage," the insurance industry said. Most big companies already provide health benefits to employees, but 30 million workers and dependents have

Washington. This week, when the govern-ment was circulating a draft copy of a UN resolution concerning joint action on Soma-lia, top Clinton advisers knew nothing of it. The government would help define the essential package of benefits. The package, though not described in detail, would go be-But they may not be too unhappy with youd minimum benefits and would "In many cases, there are instances where meet "most of the needs of Americans" for doctors' services and hosthey would just as soon see this president go pital care. Private insurers would shead and make the decision and relieve agree to provide the standard coverage, regardless of a person's med-

ical history.

• The open-ended federal subsidy for health insurance would be curtailed. If employers bought insurance covering more than the esscattla package of benefits for their employees, the premiums paid for that extra coverage would be treat-ed as income to the employees, and they would have to pay income tax on it. The core benefits would still be tax-free. Under current law, none of the employer-provided

health benefits is taxable. Economists say these tax breaks contrib-ute to the costly overuse of health care, by encouraging companies to overinsure their employees. The government would work with insurers and providers of care to reduce the immense variation in

payments to doctors and hospitals.

Private insurers and government programs would eventually have to pay similar amounts for the same services in the same geographic

The Health Insurance Association is one of many business groups that have offered to cooperate with Mr. Clinton since his election. Many of these groups previously Somalia on Aug. 14. Since then, the United States, in conjunction with relief agencies, has delivered 21,000 major changes as inevitable and tons of supplies. want to near their liking. want to help shape the results to

tain his men could take the port by force. But he reviewed the conse-

"Let's say it happens," he said.
"Then we are inside the port. They are outside the port. Instead of opening the port, you've started a war over there.'

Should he take the port or any other facility by force, General Shaheen said, he would need more troops to guard the compounds where relief workers operate.

And, he noted, his mandate from the United Nations included "accommodation and negotiation."

Venezuela Leader

The Associated Press CARACAS - The Supreme Court has agreed to decide if there was enough evidence to try President Carlos Andrés Pèrez on the accusations of treason and corruption that figured in the abortive

which accused Mr. Perez of treason for taking the state telephone company private by selling it to a foreign consortium. By law, the Supreme Court is the only body allowed to try an incumbent president. Before pursuing the case further the court must get Senate per-

* POLITICAL NOTES*

Forecast for Bentsen at Treasury is Cloudy

WASHINGTON - The ehairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Lloyd M. Bentsen, Democrat of Texas, appeared to be at the top of President-elect Bill Clinton's short list for Treasury secretary. but his chances could be clouded by political considerations to Texas and Congress. Democratic sources said.

Mr. Clinton reportedly has been considering the Texan for some time as his top choice for Treasury, but at least one other person appears to be under consideration: Robert Rubin, co-chairman of the New York investment banking firm of Goldman, Sachs & Co.

The president-elect is still wrestling with the overall makeup of his economic team, and there was no evidence that he had made an offer to anyone for the Treasury job or the three other top posts. Nor is Bentsen a universal choice inside the Clinton camp.

The four jobs Mr. Clinton wants to fill before the Dec. 14-15 economic conference that he will hold in Arkansas are: Treasury secretary, bead of the newly proposed Economic Security Council, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers and director of the Office of Management and Budget.

He Only Wants to Help, Cuomo Says of Perot

ALBANY, New York — After a meeting with Ross Perot in Dallas, Governor Mario M. Cuomo of New York said he was convinced that the former presidential candidate had no interest in heckling President-elect Bill Clinton from the political sidelines.

"I think he's sincere," Mr. Cuomo said. "He is not a troublemaker. He is not a person who is a negativist. He is not lonking to irritate.

aggravate, be the toyal opposition. That's not his choice. His choice Mr. Perot has had a low profile since winning 19 percent of the vote as an independent on Nov. 3. But Mr. Cuomo said the billionaire remains committed to converting his political organiza-

tion, United We Stand, America, into a permanent force. Mr. Cuomo said he advised Mr. Perot to keep his organization focused on the issue of the federal deficit. (NYT)

White House Secret Budget: Maybe \$1 Billion

WASHINGTON — Besides \$280 million a year in previously known White House expenditures, American taxpavers provide an incumbent president and vice president with the use of a 1,000member, \$90-million Pentagon communications staff, more than \$140 million in Secret Service protection, and \$150,000 in advice from the National Archives on the "storage and protection of presidential documents."

New details about the hidden White House budget emerged after Richard G. Darman, director of the Office of Management and Budget, sent a "preliminary" report to the House and Senate Appropriations committees listing the services provided the presi-

dent by executive branch agencies.

The report was mandated when Congress passed the main White House appropriations bill in September. The White House blocked

release of the report until after the election.

One congressman estimated earlier this year that the actual cost of operating the White House comes close to S1 hillion a year:

Mr. Darman's 14-page document unearths new details that have been buried in several appropriations bills, but omits the cost of many of them. Apparently, some information is so sensitive — or expensive — it has to be discussed with the new Clinton administration first.

Transition Time for Campaign Reporters, Too

WASHINGTON — The White House press corps is being re-shaped, and, to no one's surprise, it includes many of the reporters who covered the Clinton campaign.

The lineup also features more women than ever before. Eleanor Clift (Newsweek), Margaret Carlson (Time), Andrea Mitchell (NBC), Gwen Hill (New York Times), Ann Devroy and Ruth Marcus (The Washington Post), Kathy Lewis (Dallas Morning News), Karen Ball (Associated Press) and Helen Thomas and Lori-Santos (United Press International) are among those who will be reporting on President Clinton.

Some Clinton campaign reporters (Adam Nagourney and Bill Nichols of USA Today, Jeffrey Birnbaum and Michael Frisby of the Wall Street Journal) are being shifted to the White House beat, in some cases displacing reporters who covered President George Bush. One exception is The Post, which is keeping its Bush White House team of Miss Devroy and Miss Marcus.

"It's pretty important to have someone who knows the players and has established some relationship with them," said Jack Nelson.

Washington bureau chief of the Los Angeles Times, which has a Clinton campaign reporter, David Lauter (along with Doug Jehl and Paul Richter), covering the president-elect.

But Albert Hunt, the Wall Street Journal's bureau chief, said the

campaign reporter's advantage is "enormously exaggerated." The New York Times has replaced its two-person White House team with a "cluster" consisting of Miss Ifill, Thomas L. Friedman, Michael Kelly, Richard L. Berke and Maureen Dowd. (WP)

Quote-Unquote:

Bill Clinton on plans to send American troops to Somalia under UN auspices: "I've been fully informed, but I need to let them make

a final decision and to see exactly what's being done."

Maya Angelou: An Inaugural Symbol er in Stamps, Arkansas, about 25 miles (40

By Jacqueline Trescott

By Gwen Ifill

New York Times Service
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — President-

elect Bill Clinton, who had the luxury of

running a political campaign that focused on

the domestie issues be knew best, is grap-

pling with a transition period that has forced

international intervention becomes likelier

in Somalia, the few public pronouncements

that have emerged from the transition team.

.bave been about anything but the economy.

"There are a series of challenges out there

that a new team coming in would need to understand — not only the nature and es-sence of the problem, but also understand

.the kind of urgency they would have to deal with," said a Bush administration official

involved in the transition.

Washington Post Service
WASHINGTON — Maya Angelou got a
call this week saying Bill Clinton wanted her to compose a poem to read at his swearing-in ceremony, and sbe could hardly miss the

John Kennedy bad invited Robert Frost," she said Wednesday. "I was so exhilarated and

Maya Angelou, 64, remembers vividly that lanuary day 32 years ago, when the old poet, his white hair blowing in the cold wind and his hands shaking, read "The Gift Outright" to a rapt crowd. The image stuck with her and with the generation that includes Mr. Clinton. Frost was, according to congressional records, the last poet to read at a presidential

This time it will be Maya Angelou's mo-

Her inclusion in what will be the most

still sinking in.
"It is fitting, at the risk of taking away from the fact that he really likes my poetry, it is fitting that he asks a woman and a black woman to write a poem about the tenor of the

"It might be symbolic that black women when looked at are on the bottom of the graph. It is probably fitting that a black woman try to speak to the alienation, the abandonment and to the hope of healing those inflictions which have befallen all Americans, that accounts for white Americans feeling so estranged. Somebow a black

Wake Forest University, Maya Angelou is a daughter of Arkansas. Though she was born

public event of Mr. Clinton's historic week is

times," she said by phone from her home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Events in a Wider World Change Clinton's Focus

woman knows all about that."

Some advisers acknowledge privately that events have caught the Clinton team off guard. While the president elect has tried to releiberate quietly about the shape of his aew. Greece and Kiichi Miyazawa of Japan.

A prolific author who is also a professor at

the call to the poet.

kilometers) from Mr. Clinton's birthplace of Hope. It's another 25 miles from Hamlet, the bome town of Harry Thomason, the Clinton confidant and inaugural official who made

istration, and it's fairly continuous right now," said George Stephanopoulos, Mr. Clinton's spokesman. "Again, we bave only one president. It's President Bush's responsi-

this week with the Congress of People's Dep-

uties in Moscow. He has stayed as far away

as he can from the question of what Wash-

And he said in a speech by satellite Wednesday to a meeting of Caribbean lead-

ers that he rejects "those who would use

violence against democratically elected goveruments." presumably a reference to the leaders of Haiti, who came to power after ousting President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

In the speech he transformed the discus-

sion about foreign policy into one about the

ington's continuing role should be in the is internal conflicts in the Balkans.

Mr. Thomason, a television producer, is the general co-chairman of the Clinton inaugural committee along with his wife, the producer Linda Bloodworth-Thomason, Maya Angelou's beginnings in rural, segregated Ar-kansas formed the basis of "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," the first installment of heraward-winning autobiographies and poetry

She is already working on themes for the inaugural poem. "I don't know the poem yet," she said.

"But I can feel it in me. I do want to say this is one country and our differences and uniquenesses make us stronger, rather than di-

in St. Louis, she grew up with ber grandmoth-U.S. Population Outgrows '88 Projection

WASHINGTON - With a future - continued population surge of new immigrants and new bahies, the U.S. population is growth, which we foresaw several growing much faster than projected years ago. just four years ago, the Census Bu-

It estimated that the population, now 255 million, would reach 275 million by the year 2000 and 383 million in 2050 - an increase of 50 percent in the next six decades. In 1988, the government was projecting a population of 268 million for 2000 and 300 million for 2050.

Gregory Spencer, chief of the bureau's population projections, said: "The change is striking and dramatic. The new report presents a stripped earlier projections for two report.

Away From Politics

A high-tech imaging technique may be able to detect chemical changes in the brains of individ-

uals who are infected with the virus that causes

AIDS but have not fully developed the disease, researchers reported. The changes may indicate

progression toward AIDS and may be useful in

evaluating and developing therapies for the dis-ease, said Dr. Robert E. Lenkinski, associate pro-

fessor of radiology at the University of Pennsylva-nia in Philadelphia.

New York's holiday season opened officially with

the 60th annual lighting of the Rockefeller Center

Christmas tree, a towering Norway spruce. Thousands erowded Rockefeller Plaza, and people

leaned out of skyscraper windows to see the tree.

• The U.S. Air Force has recovered the bodies of

all four crew members of a B-1B bomber that

crashed Monday night in the rugged mountains of

no one survived the accident, which occurred near

West Texas. Dyess Air Force Base announced that

sirung with 25,000 multicolored bulbs.

The new projections, though very different from our last figures, are conservative in one sense," Mr. Spencer said. "They assume a continuation of current demographic

One such trend is rapid growth of the Hispanie population. The report says it will surpass the black population in 2013, when there will be 42.1 million Hispanic Americans 42 million beach. cans and 42 million blacks.

very different vision of America's reasons; increases in immigration and in childbearing. The govern-ment had assumed that a 1986 law penalizing employers who hire illegal aliens would curb illegal immi-

> "In fact, there is no evidence of any reduction" in illegal immigra-tion, the bureau said; in addition, it noted, the Immigration Act of 1990 allows more legal immigration.

The Census Burean bas increased its projections on illegal aliens, legal immigrants and refugees. It estimates that there will be 200,000 new illegal immigrants annually for the next 60 years, twice Population growth has out- the number assumed in the earlier of whites, blacks, Hispanic people

and illegal immigration combined will increase the population hy an average of \$80,000 a year for the next six decades. Moreover, it said, "there has been a dramatic rise in total fertil-ity levels, to almost 2.1 births per

woman." The last report assumed that the total fertility rate would decrease slightly, to 1.8 births per woman in 2050, from 1.825 in 1986. The assumption of a decline in fertility "was dead wrong," Mr. Spencer said.

white women.

In the past, Census Bureau stat-isticians assumed that fertility rates force its way. and other racial and ethnic groups bureau has now abandoned that assumption, saying that historical data provide "no compelling evidence" for it. In its new report, the bureau assumes that childbearing en will continue higher than for

In its last report, the bureau said the U.S. population would peak at 301 million in 2038, and then slow-but in a moment of anger be ly decline. By contrast, the new report estimates that the popula-brusquely for an aide. tion will continue growing through 2050, the end of the study period.

The new report vividly portrays the aging of the population. The median age, now 33, is already the highest in U.S. history. But the bureau says that will rise to 39 to 2035 and will stay around that level for the ensuing 15 years. The burean foresees a "popula-

tion explosion" among the oldest of the elderly. The number of people 85 and over, now 3.3 million, airport only. The port is blocked will double to 6.5 million by the authority and you've had a ship shelled," a year 2020 and will soar to 17.7 reference to an incident last week million in 2050, the report says.

- ROBERT PEAR by artillery fire.

SOMALIA: UN Unit in Standoff General Shaheen said he was cer-

(Continued from page 1)

troops expected to arrive here soon, the soldiers have been largely unable to accomplish their mi Their commanders blame recalcitrance and greed by Somali war-lords for the shortfall. And they say that, in a country awash in guns, their detachment is too small to

"Five hundred could have worked if there had been willing would eventually be the same. The cooperation," said Brigadier General Imtiaz Shaheen, the force's

General Shaheen, whose first assignment for the United Nations is as much a diplomatic job as it is rates for black and Hispanic wom-military, shows the strain of the negotiations and renegotiations he has endured for five months since A Move Against

> slammed down a phone and called His smoking is up, to two packs a

ny convoys to deter looting.

day. His eyes are puffed with fa-

There were hopes that the Pakistani force could control Mogadicoup attempt last week. shu's international airport and harbor so that rebef groups could use The decision was sought by a small, leftist party, Radical Cause, them without fear of molestation, and that it could perhaps accompa-

But, said General Sbaheen: "You see where I stand. At the when a UN grain ship was struck

Fat-Free? Labels Will Be Uniform

By Marlene Cimons Los Angeles Times Service
WASHINGTON — The federal government has announced final regulations for the most sweeping revision of food labels in U.S. history, reforms that will give consumers uniform information about serving sizes and nutrients and will standardize terms such as "low" fat

or "reduced" (at. The new labels are considered an important advantage for healthconscious people as research continues to show a firm association between diet and the development and prevention of certain conditions, such as cancer, high blood pressure and heart disease

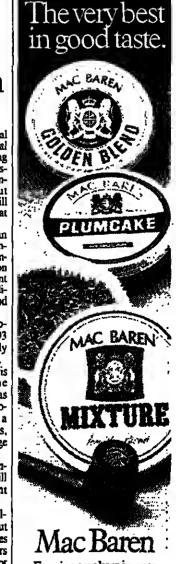
Revised labels should start anpearing on products in mid-1993 and are required to be on virtually all processed foods by May 1994.

The most significant change is that labels will now list the amounts of nutrients — such as fats, carbohydrates, sodium, protein and fiber - in the context of a daily intake of 2,000 calories, roughly the need of an average adult woman.

For example, if a product contains 13 grams of fat, the label will say that this amount is 20 percent of the daily value,

Children require about 1,800 calories, while men need up to about 2,800 calories. Using 2,000 calories as a reference point for consumers "is good for kids, it's good for women, and it is certainly not going to harm any man," said the Food and Drug Administration commissioner, David A. Kessler.

The rules also spell out how terms such as "light," "fat free." "low fat," "low calorie," "cholesterol free," and "high fiber" may be used on packages so that they will mean only one thing for nearly all



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him to address the shifting grounds of forcign policy. On Wednesday he talked to Caribbean leaders and to President George Bush, who briefed him on the status of a United Nations resolution regarding military intervention in Somalia Aides insist that Mr. Clinton is still spending most of his time selecting a cabinet, but as political turmoil grows in Russia and

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the Mexican border.

 Governor Lawton Chiles has agreed to the Navy's plan to resume test flights of unarmed Tomahawk

cruise missiles from the Gulf of Mexico over the Florida Panhandle. "I'm satisfied with the work they have done," Mr. Chiles said after a Pentagon

effective now.

• The Quebec government will vaccinate 1.5 million children and adolescents by March to protect them against a deadly form of meningitis that has

killed 38 people since 1990. • New York's two top federal prosecutors, includng the one who won a conviction against the Mafia boss John Gotti, are resigning. Otto G. Obermaier, the U.S. attorney for New York's Southern District, said he would quit Feb. 1 to return to private practice, and Andrew J. Maloney. the U.S. attorney for the state's Eastern District who is to join a law firm, said his resignation was

• The California National Guard bungled its initial deployment of 2.000 troops to Los Angeles after the outbreak of riots that erupted after the the Rodney King beating trial, according to a report commissioned by Governor Pete Wilson, and was ill-prepared to respond to the riots because of errors that could have been avoided.

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Swiss Army Looks to Widen Its Mission

By Robert L. Kroon Special to the Herald Tribune

GENEVA - In a break with its nentral doctrine, Switzerland's military planners are quietly working on a conversion of the citizens army of 620,000 into a leaner "Eurocompatible" force, prepared for international peacekeeping duties as well as national defense.

Defense Minister Kasper Villiger has won parliamentary backing for the conversion plan, known as "Army 1995," by promising more value out of the military budget, despite annual reductions in these outlays of about 5 percent. The plan calls for a slimmed-

down army of 400,000. But it also includes arms and equipment purchases to bring about what military officials view as a much-needed modernization of the armed forces. "Our forces should adapt to the real world, not the other way

(\$2.5 billion), will replace 110 aging F-5 and Mirage interceptors.

"An air force flying 25-year-old planes is more threatening to its pilots than a potential enemy," Mr. Villiger said.

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also the army's sense of mission.

What Hitler's army grudgingly called the "Swiss porcupine" that had better be left alone will now be

'Our forces should adapt to the real world, not the other way around.' Defense Minister Kasper Villiger

oriented toward what Mr. Villiger describes as "Euro-usefulness." This may involve a future peacekeeping role under the anspices of around," Mr. Villiger said.

Among the planned purchases is an order for 34 U.S. built FA-18 fighters. The planes, which cost a total of 3.5 billion Swiss francs of which it is not.

The Army 1995 plan also calls for at least one Swiss unit to be trained and equipped for United Nations peacekeeping dutles "with the consent of the parties in a con-

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The plan concerns not only Already, in a departure from for the abolition of the armed troop strength and hardware, but neutral tradition, the Swiss Army forces by 2000. Although the mea-UN patrols in the former Yugosla- about one-third of voters. via and the Israeli-occupied Golan cal unit under UN command in the

Western Sahara. In another element of the debate next year. grate more closely with their neighhors. The government and industry collected 180,000 signatures on pe-

land has a strong pacifist lobby, a rist sentiment in a country whose coalition of socialist, youth and citizen-army is the pride of the naecological organizations, which inition and the envy of foreign militiated a referendum in 1989 calling tary observers.

has provided unarmed observers to sure failed, it was supported by The coalition, called "Group for heights, and has provided a medi- a Switzerland Without Army," has

vowed to scuttle the FA-18 project by initiating another referendum on its role in Europe, Swiss voters It has proposed that the governwill decide Sunday whether to inte-ment purchase no new air force planes until the year 2000, and has

are urging them to say "yes" to titions for a referendum, far more than the 100,000 required. nomic Area, a new 19-nation free The federal government and partrade zone that they say will bring big benefits to the Swiss economy.

The plan to modernize the army is not without its critics. Switzer-

Zulu Chief Urges Vote on Merger

JOHANNESBURG — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, head of the Zuhu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, said Thursday that he are the control of the proposed the merger Tuesday. ty, said Thursday that he would

"I feel that the adoption of the constitution of the state of Kwa- deadlocked since May. Chief Buth-Zulu-Natal reflects an immediate elezi has criticized the bilateral

He spoke Wednesday as govern hold a referendum on merging his ment and African National Con-black homeland with white-run gress negotiators met for a second Natal into a largely autonomous day of private bargaining about terms for the renewal of multiparty democracy talks that have been and clear mandate from the people of my region, who will have the opportunity to exercise their sover-other political parties.

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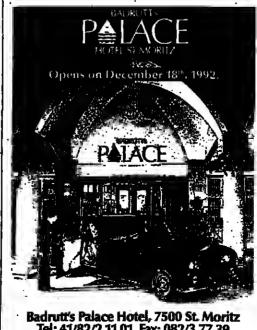
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Protests Spread in Germany

New Steps Target Rightist Violence

By Stephen Kinzer New York Times Service BERLIN - As Germans prepared new protests against the wave of anti-foreigner violence sweeping their country, leading politicians pledged Thursday to For the first time, Chancellor

Helmut Kohl acknowledged criticism that he had reacted too slowly to the wave of violence.

"Our federal and state governments are taking every legal step to combat violence and political ex-tremism." Mr. Kohl assured foreign diplomats at a reception in Bonn. "I regret that this clear and unmistakable resolve was not understood and appreciated every-where. None of us minimizes the

Mr. Kohl's office announced Thursday that he had directed one of his senior aides to coordinate a oew "ioterministerial working group" that will coordinate and recommend further steps in the fight against rightist violence. sident Richard von, Weiz-

sacker told a Jewish group Thursday in Frankfurt that Germany was living through a "difficult The state has a duty to guaran-tee everyone a life free from fear,

even those who are weak," Mr. von Weizsäcker said. "This duty must and will be fulfilled." Rainer Voss, chairman of the Association of German Judges, urged

judges to react as harshly to rightist terror as they did to leftist terror in "If we don't do this," Mr. Voss told an audience of judges in Dres-

den, "we open ourselves up to the charge that the state reacts when its leading citizens are attacked, but not when the victims come from social minorities."

lo Munich, a group of citizens announced plans for a mass march against racism that they say may be the biggest demonstration held in that city since the end of World War II. They hope that 100,000 people will take to the streets carrying candles to show their opposition to violent extremism. Organizations from church parishes to sports clobs to kindergartens have agreed to participate.

Honecker **Disavows** 'Legal and **Moral Guilt'**

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By Marc Fisher

Washington Post Service LEIPZIG — The former East Honecker, an unrepentant revolu-tionary currently held in Berlin's Moabit prison, made his last stand Thorsday, responding to manslaughter charges with an indignant

speech dismissing his trial as "farce" and "political show."

Hands shaking, the 80-year-old, cancer-ridden builder of the Berlin Wall read an hourlong address in which he swore, "I will not live to hear your verdict." The punishment you apparent-

ly have in mind will not reach me,"

Mr. Honecker, the first and likely only former East-bloc leader to be tried for Communist-era ahuses, is charged with manslaughter in 13 of the 350 incidents in which East lead Russia back toward the Siberi-Germans were killed trying to flee their country. Bot Mr. Honecker, a fugitive from German justice for two years until he was forced out of the Chilean Embassy in Moscow in July, refused to respond directly to the charges, saying that would lend the trial "the appearance of jus-

Instead, he defended his life's dedication to communism and sought to salvage a decent reputstion for the country he helped found and then watched dissolve as its people peacefully but firmly de-clared it a disaster zone.

"I lived for the German Demo-cretic Republic," Mr. Honecker said, using East Germany's official name. He accepted "political re-sponsibility" for the killing of citi-zens who tried to cross the Berlin Wall, but "without legal and moral guilt." Mr. Honecker said it was his superiors in Moscow who ordered the wall built and secured, not the East Germans named in official

The decision in 1961 to build the wall "was correct and remained correct," Mr. Honecker said, al- er, the Congress would have to ap though he later said the shooting of prove several constitutional escaping citizens "damaged us po-litically." He credited the wall with averting ouclear war and bringing East and West together, a conclusion so novel it brought gasps and Constitute. chuckles from the courtroom audi-

Mr. Honecker's speech, written prime minister. But his supporters in late-night sessions at a portable say the president could refuse to typewriter in his jail cell, was a nostalgie return to a language not heard in three years, a wordy recitation of socialist jargon.

A lifelong Communist jailed for 10 years by the Nazis for his politi-cal beliefs, Mr. Honecker com-Gaidar's policies and calling for pared reunited Germany's prosecu-tion of East German officials to the crimes of Nazi Germany and accused Berlin authorities of conducting "a Nuremburg trial against



Anatoli Shabad, crouching, pushing his way toward the speakers' podium Friday as others tried to stop him.

Brawl Erupts at Moscow Congress Session

Washington Post Service
MOSCOW — A Russian legislative session erupted into a pushing,
pummeling brawl in the Great Kremlin Hall on Thursday after an emotional debate about Russia's reforms, bringing the day's session of the Congress of People's Depu-ties to a premature close and leaving unresolved the future of President Boris N. Yeltsin's reformist

Dozens of deputies shoved and er's podium while Mr. Yeltsin at first watched in apparent disgust from his raised seat and then stalked out.

Other deputies stood on the arms of their chairs for a better view

hooting and cheering.

The speaker of the Congress Ruslan I. Khasbulatov, cried into his microphone, "Esteemed people's deputies, defend me against these deputies!" and then made a hasty exit after declaring an indefi-

Afterward, in a Kremin lobby huzziog with excitement, some deputies decried the melee as "shameful," "repulsive" and "em-barrassing." But other deputies noted that similar scenes had been recorded in parliaments in Japan and Korea, and one, Leonid Gurevich, said jokingly that Russia was simply "trying to live like civilized countries elsewhere."

The brawl ostensibly concerned a procedural matter, relating to day would take place by secret or open ballot. But it appeared to re-flect the deep anxieties of many power they enjoyed under the Soviet system slipping away, and the frustrations of liberal reformists, who believe progress toward domocracy and a free market is being blocked by the Congress.

Many deputies said they expect-ed the Congress to vote Friday on would strip Mr. Yeltsin of much of his authority. A no-confidence vote on Mr. Yeltsiu's acting prime minister, Yogor T. Gaidar, the architect of the Russian economic reforms, was also possible Friday or Satur-

day, Congress leaders said. Mr. Gaidar, 36, an economist who has defended his "shock-therapy" reforms against all critics, had to listen from his front-row scat on Thursday as a parade of deputies attacked him. One accused him of "sacrificing a generation," while another said Mr. Gaidar's program was a "catastrophe."

In a brief, caustic reply shortly before the brawl, Mr. Gaidar said he would not bother to defend himself against accusations that he was an agent of "international imperi-alism." Then, while acknowledging serious mistakes, he asserted that his most conservative critics would

an gulag.
"I am happy that everybody is now in favor of reform," he said sarcastically, as deputies hissed and booed. "This is a dramatic breakthrough because there was oo shortage of opponents to marketoriented reforms only one year ago.

"But if we take a look at what these proposed reforms are, we get a very interesting picture. It is pro-posed to give up the idea of private land ownership, to check the pro-cess of privatization, to freeze wages and prices, to revive the state-planning agency Gosplan, to call to account the former republics, which seem to have obtain too much independence and then, presumably, to build labor camps for the agents of world imperial-

Mr. Gaidar's reference to labor camps set off another round of cat-

Despite the high emotions of the Mr. Yeltsin and the Congress were headed for compromise.

To strip Mr. Yeltsin of his powamendments by two-thirds majorities, which even conservatives acknowledge are likely beyond their

Mr. Yeltsin, similarly, may be unable to win the simple majority he needs to confirm Mr. Gaidar as cominate another candidate, keeping Mr. Gaidar io his current post

of acting prime minister. As a result, several deputies said they expected the Congress to ap-"corrections," while Mr. Yeltsin may add to his government a deputy prime minister more in tune with

The brawl on Thursday centered on conservatives' desire to vote on

the constitutional amendments by About five liberal depoties, in-

secret ballot. Reformist deputies asserted that a secret ballot had been sought because many conser-vatives were alraid to vote openly against Mr. Yeltsin. After a confusing and procedurally questionable vote on the mat-

Friday's votes would be secret.

chiding Anatoli Shabad, rushed to the podium, demanding a reconsideration. Mr. Khasbolatov then shouted into the microphone: "I ask that I be defended from

these insults! Esteemed people's deputies, defend me against these ter, Mr. Khasbulatov, an unpredictable but usually conservative critic of the president, declared that

rushed down there and began to

Asked who he had tussled with, the slight Mr. Shahad, who lost his spectacles in the melee, said,

fight with."

Mr. Yeltsin's economics minister, Andrei A. Nechayev, a frequent target of the conservatives, Mr. Shahad recalled later: "Al- said, "The Congress has disgraced ter that, quite a few burly men

Mafia Prosecutor Found Dead He Left Suicide Note Denying Links to Mob

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

ROME - Four days after newspapers reported accusations that he had links to the Mafia, a prominent Italian public prosecutor who played a central role in imprisoning ilian mobsters was found dead at his home Thursday, and the police said he had apparently committed suicide.

The accusations against Domenico Signorino were based on the testimony of a Malia turncoat and raised questions about the status of evidence provided by informers who have become the authorities' principle source of information

The charges revived a debate over the Maria's long-suspected efforts to penetrate state institutions, including the judiciary.

The police said Mr. Signorino, 48, left a note addressed to his wife saying he was innocent. He was found dead with a gun at his side.

His death was the third reported spicide linked to the Mafia in Sicily since late last month, when an accused Malia boss and a suspected "counselor" to one of the island's most notorious gangsters jumped to their deaths after being arrested.

The accusations against Mr. Signorino were made by Gaspare Mutolo, a Malia informer who caused an earlier stir in October when he identified a close aide of former Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti's as a link between the goverament in Rome and the moh. cided with a fresh crackdown on

the main public prosecutors at the and with renewed efforts by invesso-called maxitrial in Palermo in 1987, when he demanded life sentences for 20 accused gangsters. and sought a 17 years for Mr. Mutolo, who has since turned state's evidence.

Mutolo told investigators that Mr. cles l know."

jected the charge, and told report-ers: "If seeking 20 life sentences at ministration." the maxitrial means I am a Mafioso, then go ahead and call me that."

cion of complicity with the mob. Earlier this year, another senior signed after investigators accused him of blocking their inquiries into

Mafia crimes. But the prosecutor's death Thursday also inspired debate over the disclosure of unsubstantiated allegations by Malia informers. "Informers are very important in-struments for the light against or-ganized crime," said a magistrate, Vladimiro de Nunzio, "but sometimes disclosures that are made

Mr. Signorino had heen one of mobsters to the Gela area of Sicily tigators to move not only against Mafiosi but also against polincians presumed to be in cahoots with

In Gela, investigators issued 96 arrest warrants for Malia-linked According to press leaks, Mr. activities including extortion and murder. The small seaside town in Signorino was "close to certain cir- Sicily has become an emhlem of the many similar towns in Sicily where, Mr. Signorino had publicly re- the authorities said, the Mafia has

The ties between Italy's various Mafia-linked organized crime The informer's accusations gangs and politicians, moreover, against him — which have not been have come under increased scrutisubstantiated - recalled other oc- ny since the police in southern Italy casions when senior figures in the this week arrested 11 people in con-Sicilian judiciary came under suspinection with the 1989 murder of Ludovico Ligato, the former head of the country's state railroads.

Four of the people arrested are ing the official's assassination — the first time politicians have been involvement in gangland murder.

Russian Crime Rises 21%

MOSCOW - Russian police have registered a record 2.25 million crimes in the last 10 months, a without verification cause untold period last year, the Interior Ministry reported Thursday.

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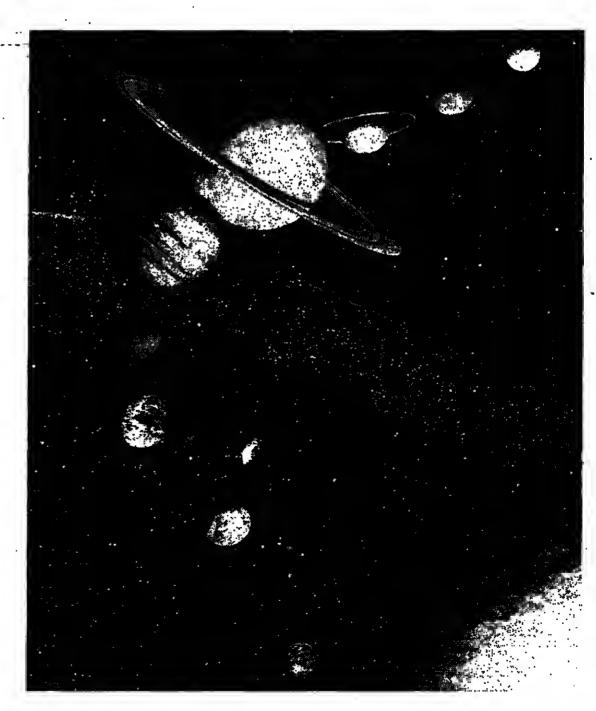
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SCIUS S - SUI CNI OTH ADOCH I

Priority in Germany

Germany last week had the long overdue right groups and seek to outlaw a variety of effect of provoking the kind of strong official reaction - indeed, a flurry of reactions - that local and international anti-racism forces have called for repeatedly in the past year, It is another question whether the new measures now being launched can contain the virulence with which the problem has spilled out. The Kohl government's initia-tives against the apparently still rising wave of attacks fall into two broad categories: first, a far stronger and much needed focus on law enforcement; second, a hroader effort to crack down on a variety of forms of racist and neo-Nazi expression.

The politicians' new sense of urgency is, of course, welcome, and it almost does not matter whether it stems from genuine outrage at atrocities committed against innocent people or from pragmatic concern about a suddenly revived international impression of Germany as a lawless and racist land where foreigners (including potential investors in the East1 are unsafe and unwelcome. The government's chosen tactics, though, offer a more jumbled message.

Immediately after the murders, the government put a federal prosecutor in charge of the murder investigation, on the stated grounds that this kind of violence coupled with the openly Nazi language used in its perpetration constitutes a danger to state stability. By Wednesday, two suspects had been jailed and their confessions reported. a real change from the lax protection and languid response alleged after previous at-tacks. But the government also announced wide-ranging measures against Nazi-style

The murders of three Turkish residents in activity, saying it would ban several farmusical releases and concerts that are thought to incite violent behavior.

The implication is troubling, if familiar from debates in America about "hate crime" legislation, which we also tend to view with skepticism: Shouldo't it be obvious to all concerned that it is already illegal to murder people or firebomh their houses? Shouldn't that continue to be the focus? Treating the expression of anti-foreigner views as cause of the violence rather than symptom carries the familiar danger of driving it underground, all the more so since German law already offers a complicated patchwork of prohibitions on displaying Nazi symbols or making certain kinds

Efforts like the government's new emphasis on law enforcement cannot entirely obscure the troubling social realities reflected in the long delay that preceded it: that large numbers of both East and West Germans do barbor hostility toward foreigners and reluctance to see their society become more diverse in race or religion, and that national polinicians, including Chancellor Helmut Kohl, perceived a political cost in

speaking out firmly against that sentiment.
Americans should know as well as anyone that you cannot put a stop to crime simply by saying you will: For the Germans, a real struggle lies ahead. But the distinction between altering vicious attitudes and punishing vicious actions must continue to be made, and it is the latter that carries the most urgency.

- THE WASHINGTON POST.

Now It's About Steel

three sectors that repeatedly produce the angriest of quarrels over international trade. Last month a long dispute over farm exports flared up again between the United States and Europe. Now the United States has accused steel producers in a dozen countries of benefiting from illicit subsidies.

It is not hard to see why steel, textiles and agriculture produce a strikingly high proportion of the world's angriest trade fights. All three are basic commodities and until recently employed very high numbers of the industrial democracies' working people. But in all three sectors productivity has been rising enormously fast, and to soften the social impact of dislocation and unemployment most industrial countries have tried to keep out foreign imports while anxiously dumping their own surpluses abroad.

That starts ugly collisions, which governments usually try to resolve hy organizing cartels to divide up markets without getting into unwelcome questions about who is being illegally subsidized and who is violating trade agreements by dumping. The United States Imposed a quota system on steel imports in 1969, and one kind or another of import restraint has been in effect most of the time since then.

But early this year President George

Steel, textiles, agriculture: Those are the —to abolish the steel cartel and the import quotas. If foreign producers were being unfairly belped by their governments, the Bush administration said, it was up to American steel makers to prove it. That is the case now going forward. There is much more to come. The rulings will not be final until late next summer.

Before then, many people of rank and dignity will have called on President Bill Clinton to explain to him that it is unkind and unwarranted to inflict such political pain on countries that are the United States' old allies. Europeans and Asians do not have the American toleration of social change, they will argue, and their govern-ments cannot take the strain of it.

The right answer is that no country has the right to use subsidies to distort and undercut its neighbors' economies. If Europeans think they are being treated unfairly under American law - which does in fact tend to tilt in favor of American producers - they can go to international tribunals under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. That gives them one more rea-son to bring the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations to a rapid conclusion this winter, providing prompt and evenhanded set-tlement of these dangerous quarrels. The alternative is to return to cartels.

Health Care, Carefully

to deliver worthy health care reform legislation to the Democratle Congress in his first bundred days. Victory assured. Or is it? Managed competition — the best plan for reforming the recklessly costly health care system — is in danger of losing by winning.

During the campaign, the idea was

stretched almost beyond recognition. What started out as a plan to control costs through competition became, in some renditions, an excuse to impuse price controls. The danger is that managed competition will pass in name only. Price controls would foster bureaucracy, invite evasion and, worse yet, stifle innovation.

Congress and the public will have to understand, first, how managed competi-

tion is supposed to work. The current payment system is out of control. Typically, doctors are paid for virtually all services rendered, which encourages them to render wasteful services. Insurers cannot control costs or treatment because they do not control the doctors patients choose. Patients give little attention to doctors fees' or employer-paid insurance premiums because they pay only a

small part of these hills. Managed competition would solve these problems by organizing consumers into large groups run by a sophisticated buyer. or sponsor. These sponsors would have the knowledge and leverage to negotiate hard

bargains with private insurers. The spoosors - perhaps large employers or local government — would set ground rules that protect rich and pnor, healthy and sick. For example, sponsors would standardize benefit packages, making comparison shopping easy. They would require insurers to offer coverage to high-risk consumers at nondiscriminatory rates. And they would overcome the problems of fee-for-service coverage by en-couraging the growth of health mainte-

nance organizations, or HMOs. HMOs offer coverage by a fixed panel of doctors for prepaid premiums. That system creates a powerful incentive to keep customers healthy and avoid wasteful treatments. And by creating an integrated net-

President-elect Bill Clinton has promised deliver worthy health care reform legisla- and save dollars in ways unimaginable un-

der the present system.

For example, HMOs can concentrate specialties — heart surgery in one regional hos-pital, prostate surgery in another — which is the best way to cut down on surgical accidents. HMOs can match the number of urologists, radiologists and other specialists to need, a source of tremendous savings.

And HMOs can systematically study,

therefore improve, treatment practices and outcomes. Fee-for-service insurers, who bear no contractual relationship to providers other than to pay hills, can do virtually none of these things.

But for all their promise, HMOs bave produced only modest benefits so far. That is because the current system does not force them to compete. That would dramatically change under managed competition once

sponsors are in place. Critics of the managed competition idea contend that it is merely an abstract, un-tried theory. They are mistaken. Consider Calpers, the organization providing health insurance to nearly a million Californa state employees. It adopted managed com-petition rules last year. What happened? While premiums soared everywhere else, a quarter of the HMOs with which Calpers does business maintained present premitims - or even reduced their premiums.

Some eritics fear families signing up with HMOs would be separated from their trusted family doctor. The danger is real but exaggerated. As HMOs proliferate and altract more customers, most doctors would join HMOs to keep old patients and gain new ones.

Another common criticism is that managed competition would throw low-income consumers into second-rate plans. That is false. Well-to-do families could, at their own expense, huy amenities like coverage for private hospital rooms. But everyone would receive the same basic benefits, de-

fined by the federal government. Managed competition offers no magic. It does remedy what ails the health care system Americans depend on.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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Bosnia: Bush Won't Rush In and Clinton Is Walking

N EW YORK — The people of Bosnia and the tinderboxes nearby might meditate on two realities: First, George Bush will not order U.S. forces to the rescue. Forget it. Second, Bill Clinton won't either — at least not for months, He shows little disposition to walk economics and chew foreign policy gum at the same time. He has barely begun to

select his national security team. President Bush's decisioo to dispatch troops to Somalia has in no way altered his opposition to U.S. intervention in Bosnia. His senior aides are absolutely clear about that. He just sees too many land mines in Bosnia and no way to get out.

Mr. Clinton is unlikely to set his course in

Bosnia until weeks after his inauguration, at the earliest. Which means thousands more dead Bosnians and bundreds of thousands more Bosnian refugees pouring into an al-ready floundering Germany. Which means little prospect of heading off wider Balkan wars in Kosovo and Macedonia. All this portends moral and strategic disaster.

President-elect Clinton should move now to pin his senior foreign policy and defense team in place and get them cracking on Bos-nia and other world crises. Focusing on the By Leslie H. Gelb

economy is right, but treading water on for-

cannot do the job of creating policy. It contains few experienced, high-level pros. And answering ridiculous press queries about Clinton policies that don't exist, playing foot-

All this portends moral and strategic disaster.

Sandy Berger, the leader of the transition staff, has commissioned various policy papers from able, senior people. But these papers cannot substitute for the advisers who will

eign affairs is dead wrong.

His transition staff for national security these pros have to spend most of their time

sie with anxious foreign diplomats, taking phone calls from panicky job-seekers and meeting with political allies to keep them

from feeling excluded when the moment comes to exclude them.

form the Clinton National Security Council. The first task of these senior advisers

should be to flesh ont Mr. Clinton's promising campaign rhetoric on Bosnia. He talked sensibly about providing arms to Muslims. now virtually defenseless against Serbian attacks. He hinted creatively at bombing at-tacks against military targets in Serbia to deter Serbs from further aggression. But good

thoughts do not a policy make. Before the Clinton team goes too far down the road on a Balkan policy, it should talk with key Bush aides. The president and his team have been far too cautious, unimaginative and shortsighted on Bosnia, but they have some telling arguments. Clinton advisers should listen and fashion convincing responses.

Mr. Clinton wisely rejects fighting a ground war in Bosnia. Instead some of his advisers speak of establishing a safety zone there where Bosnians could go for food, shelter and security. Bush aides and Bosnian Muslims. along with the international mediators Cyrus Vance and David Owen, reject this idea. They feel it would legitimize Serbian conquests of Bosnian Muslim territory. But surely a formula can be found to provide for immediate bumanitarian needs without compromising

long-term negotiating positions.
Busb advisers also (ault the Clinton inclina-

tion to arm Muslims. They believe, again hacked by Mr. Vance and Lord Owen, that this would only lead to greater violence and

even more Muslim deaths. But there is a trade-off here: A heavy shortterm price may be worthwhile to stabilize the hattlefield and save lives thereafter.

Bush aides insist that if the United States bombs Serbia, as Mr. Clinton may propose, London and Paris will withdraw their humanitarian relief forces from Bosnia. And so they will, unless Mr. Clintoo successfully mounts a risky and ambitious campaign in

private and public diplomacy.

Most compellingly. Bush advisers warn that getting into Bosnia will be far easier than getting out. Before taking any action. Mr. Clinton will have to fashion a persuasive plan of limited involvement, explaining what lines he will and will not cross - then sell it to

Americans and to Congress. After looking at all this, Mr. Clinton may decide it is too late to help Bosnia. If so, he had better stop leading the Bosnian Muslims on, come up with a second line of defense against Serbia in Kosovo and Macedonia, and

sell that to Congress and the American people. The New York Times.

Yugoslavia: Unyielding Realities, Inescapable Responsibilities

By Cvijeto Job

BELGRADE—The whole course of the Yugoslav war justifies the following conclusions: There will be no cease-fire, peace or stability in the Balkans, nor democratic rule of law in the Vugoslav lands, while the ex-treme nationalist forces of Serbia and Croaria and their henchmen in Bosnia are permitted to pursue their rac-

ist irredentist programs.
It is unrealistic and inhumane to expect that the Yugoslav slaughter will stop of itself. The combination of Dobrica Cosic and Milan Panic, president and prime minister of the rump Yugoslav federation, seems incapable of making a serious dent in the power of the Serblan president, Slobodan Milosevic, which is the main source of the Yugoslav holocatist. It is hard to believe that "democratie" elections, in circumstances thoroughly undemocratic and violent, can produce change. Nobody wants to discourage the rue opposition parties but, as Lenin said, the guns of speech seldom prevail over the speech of guns."

The efforts of the United Na-

tions, the European Community

and NATO, as narrowly circumscribed by the member nations, are demonstrably unable to stop the genocide of "ethnic cleansing." The war is bound to spread unless there is a major switch to peace enforcement, and only strong leadership by the United States can achieve this. Debate continues about whether

U.S. national interests are involved sufficiently to justify more forceful action. One discerns a tendency to separate the imperatives of moral obligation and humanitarian responsibility from considerations of realpolitik, security and strategy. High-ranking U.S. officials state that the administration is torn be-tween the unacceptability of just

watching the slaughter proceed and the difficulty of finding the right response to so "complex" a situation. They allow that important interests of the Euro-Atlantic community would be seriously affected if and when the war spreads to Sanjak, Kosovo, Macedonia and beyond, One prays that this does not mean that genocide "just" in Bosnia is tolerable. Already, it serves as a convenient excuse for some to dismiss the Yugoslav war as tribal war among "crazy" Serbs, Croats and Muslims, Crazy equals alien equals incomprehensible equals unmanageable - and therefore nothing really can be done about it.

We have come to the point where because the international community has the means and has developed the political, legal and moral grounds for applying force to stop mass "internal" crimes against wbole populations (Iraq, Somalia),

it is duty-bound to do so here. It is time to move forward from narrow concepts of national inter-est and to recognize that in this interdependent and fragile world the matters of moral duty and humanitarian interests also constitute vital, strategic national interests. Not acting in line with the best impulses and traditions of national conscience can do lasting damage to a nation's self-esteem and ethical

identity, draining its morale and weakening its international role. But nothing of real significance will be done until the American president settles on an overall strategic concept and states unambigu-ously that "ethnic cleansing." genocide and aggression cannot be per-mitted to succeed. These crimes strike at the foundations of any ac-

ceptable world order and threaten

the security and well-being of all na-tions, including the United States. Such a strategy should include:

The central and clear goal of ousting Slobodan Milosevic and of undoing the "ethnic purity" policies and forces he represents. Nor can there be any tolerance for the similar policies and acts of Croatian

extreme nationalists. · A lasting commitment to restore and preserve the territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina. · Undelayed recognition of the

republic of Macedonia. A solemn declaration by the president to all peoples of the former. Yugoslavia that America has malice

toward none and equal friendship for

all. He would spell out principles and goals of international action, includ-ing guarantees for the full rights of ethnic groups such as Serbs in Cro-

atia. Albanians in Serbia.

Such a declaration should open prospects of generous international assistance for reconstruction of devastated lands and economies. It would aim at strengthening internal opposition to the current course. All should be made aware that an inexorable ratcheting process of pressure, including military pressure. will be taking place as necessary — and all should be invited to ahandon the suicidal war maniacs earli-

er rather than later. For this strategy of obtaining a cessation of war even before a full military intervention, it falls on the United States to take the lead and show that it is ready to do what it takes, however long it takes.

The writer, a retired Yugoslav dip-lomat, is a columnist for the independent Belgrade weekly Vreme, He contributed this comment to The Washington Post,

Wanted for Germany: A Modern Citizenship

By William Pfaff

P ARIS — Germany's anguish to-day has two causes, one political and the other cultural and historical. The political problem is that the governing and opposition parties still cannot agree to change the constitution to restrict the influx of foreigners demanding political refuge.
Some 2,000 people now arrive daily.

most of them economic rather than political refugees, but all entitled to admission and a hearing by adjudicators who have a backlog, now, that approaches a half-million cases.

The situation is due originally to

an honorable reluctance to amend a constitutional provision of noble intention. But as the abuse of this provision has created a situation in which the public order of the state itself is challenged, what is happen-ing amounts to a calamitous abdication of political responsibility by the

Even without a constitutional amendment, the government could have assigned more adjudicators (there have been 1,200 of them, according to The New York Times) and speeded case procedures. Chan-cellor Helmut Kohl preferred to let

MUNICH — A long interview in the Süddeutsche Zeitung

with Peter Boppel, a psychothera

pist, presumes to answer an old question that screams anew from the daily headlines. Why do people become torturers? Why do they kill

indiscriminately?
Germans, faced with the out-

hreak of pro-Nazi attacks on de-

fenseless foreigners, feel uneasy again with the never answered enig-ma of how the horrors of the Third

Reich could have happened, whether there are special kinds of people who can be so inhuman or whether.

as the interviewer put it, torturers

are just people like you and me.
A part of the answer comes from

Sarajevo in another interview, con-

ducted in prison over seven hours by

John Burns of The New York Times with 21-year-old Borislav Herak, a

Bosnian Serb whose grandmother

was a Croat and whose sister mar-ried a Muslim. Telling of his life

before the war in a city where people mixed easily, said: "[Muslims] were

very good to me as people. Every-where I went, Muslims helped me.

But at much greater length, al-

most casually, he told about what

he had been doing in the last six months—the eight Muslim women

he raped and murdered, the three

Muslim men whose throats he slit

with the "skill" he had learned from

a farmer butchering pigs, the hundreds of civilians he coldly shot or

He was captured because he

took a wrong turn and ran into a Muslim checkpoint, and he knows

In a rare moment of emotion he said, "If there was a God, I would

not have been caught." The self-

righteousness is almost more bone-

chilling than the unspeakable

watched gunned down.

he faces execution.

They are a very correct people."

the crisis intensify and hlame the Social Democrats for opposing constitutional change.

There has also been a grave police failure, both to protect foreigners and

to find and arrest the murderers and attackers of refugees (and foreign residents). The police structure in East Germany has been weak since unification, for obvious reasons, and Germany's federal government system has inhibited coordinated national action until very recently. But among the authorities there bas seemed no urgency to overcome these obstacles, or to commit federal anti-terrorist police and intelligence units to the threat created by neo-

Nazi and "skinhead" extremists. Behind all this lies a controversy over what it is to be a German. There is no tradition of immigration and assimilation. There are 5 million forcignes in the country, mainly Turks and Slavs, many of whom have lived in Germany much or all of their lives and ere culturally German. Few are permitted naturalization.

On the other hand, peoples of German origin who have lived in Eastern Europe or Russia for generations, of-

We the Decent People, Saying 'No'

By Flora Lewis

crimes he described in such detail.

Dr. Boppel argued that torturers have to be carefully taught, that

they are recruited from people who were abused as children, who are

sexually insecure, who are deliber-

ately and brutally trained to reject burnan feeling, who must learn to be wanton killers. Not you and me.

The evidence is against him, on the side of the late Hannah Arendt

who studied the Holocaust and

the capacity of perfectly ordinary

people to behave as monsters. Borislav Herak, who never got

good grades in school but had a job in a local textile company, only changed his mind about his neigh-

bors after he joined Serbian fighters

besieging Sarajevo last May. "We were told that we would have to cleanse our whole population of Muslims... That's why it bas

He told of a whole family he and

a couple of companions found hid-

ing in a basement in the village of

Ahatovici, five miles from Sarajevo.

They ordered them outside and im-

mediately killed them with their

automatics. "I remember the little girl with the red dress hiding behind

her granny," he said.
"We were told that Ahatovici

must be a cleansed Serbian territo-

ry," he explained. "We were told that no one must escape and that

all the houses must be burned, so

that if anybody did survive they

would have nowhere left to return

to. It was an order, and I simply

as a child, his father told Mr. Burns.

Yet he seemed not to question that

"orders" was reason enough for

He was not orderly or obedient

did what I was told."

been necessary to do all this."



ten for centuries, who speak old German dialects and are lotally out of touch with modern Germany, have an automatic claim to citizenship and resettlement assistance

what be did nor to wonder about

the people who would give such orders. His hard but rather hand-

some face with wide-set eyes and large, full mouth looks enigmatic in

the photograph. He is frightened, but shows no remorse.

His testimony is crucial to the central question. At what point would we the decent people, accept

such orders? In what circumstances

does the excuse become conta-gious? In Northern Ossetia, an au-

tonomous Caucasian republic in the south of Russia, almost all the local Ingush people have been chased away in the name of "ethnic

cleansing," and the local cossack

chief has proclaimed that they can-

not come back on pain of death.

At what point is the claim to decency denied by knowing about such orders and such obedience and

Mr. Herak did admit that be

wakes up in a cold sweat at night

with dreams of individuals he killed, and that "all these things have fried my conscience." How much raw-conscience is left to the rest of us

when we hear and merely deplore?

is humanly possible. It is preceded by the deliberate fanning of hatred,

not careful training but deliberate

manipulation of real or imagined

grievance. The crime follows easily,

gnevance. I he crime follows easily, terrifyingly easily.

We cannot make people better than they are. But we can heed the warnings that the worst is spouting to the surface when they talk of "cleansing" or "transfer" or throwing out "others." If we value the

chance to remain decent people, and it can't be taken for granted, the time

to say "no" is to the first hateful word. Soon after, it becomes an "or-

The New York Times.

der." Then who are we?

One thing we can learn: Such evil

This reflects an attitude about the nation which characterizes most, although not all, of the states in Central, Eastern and Balkan Europe that

claimed independent existence as the guasi-found and thulturational Huly Roman and Ottoman systems broke down in the 19th century.
"Germany," until Napoleon's time, consisted of hundreds of more

or less autonomous political entities with loose feudal links to one another. The Hapsburg monarchy incor-porated Hungarians, Slavs and Ital-ians, as well as Germans. However, the German unification carried out by Bismarck, completed in 1871, rested on n conception of German nationhood that was fundamentally racial, in an old-fashioned but indispensable use of that term.

The modern expression, "ethnicity." describes a combination of traits — of ancestry, language, religion, ge-ography — "seen to be the basis of a distinctive identity." (The definition is that of Nathan Glazer and Daniel P. Movnihan.) This does not fit the German case. A fully acculturated, secularized Turk, or Catholic Slovenian or Croatian, born in Germany, is blocked from naturalization only because his ancestry is not German. He is not of the German "race."

This is different from nationhood elsewhere in the West. The United States, Canada, etc., are, of course, immigrant nations by design. France and Italy are open to those prepared to become French or Italian in cul-

ture. Britain, the Netherlands and France, old imperial scates, have readily given citizenship to people from their ex-colonies. Their norms of nationality are political and cultural, not racial.

Germans today must at the minimum demand of themselves that law reigns, public order is preserved, crimes are punished, and the security and buman rights of refugees and foreign residents are guaranteed. German public authorities, and Germany's friends and allies abroad, must also acknowledge that the continuing huge inflow of foreigners crucially challenges received and fundamental German assumptions concerning Germany's identity and mason-boad. The problem has been travered. hood. The problem has been worsened by denying its importance. This means limiting the influx of foreigners.

At the same time, Germany's mtellectuals, and these who claim to re-present the public conscience, have an ohligation to address the immaturity of these national assumptions, and attempt to move Germany away from that identification of "race" with nation which has proved so le-thal in Germany's past (and again in Yugoslavia's present), toward the secular and cultural definitions of nationhood that prevail elsewhere in

the modern West.
International Herald Tribune. O Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1917: Bulgaria's Aim

into negotiations: "Bulgaria could not reject this peace offer because it means the realization of the national idea for which she entered the war, that is, the unification of the Bulgarian nation in a single state comprising Macedonia and the countries of the Morava and the Dobruja."

1942: Japanese Losses WASHINGTON - [From our New

WASHINGTON — [From our New York edition:] Nine more Japanese ships, including two cruisers or large destroyers and two troop transports, were sunk in a new naval engagement north of Guadalcanal on Nov. 30, the Navy Department announced today [Dec. 4]. A naval spokesman estimated that 5,000 Japanese soldiers were drowned when the two heavily laden transports were sent to the bottom. transports were sent to the bottom. American losses during this night action were listed as one cruiser sunk and an unspecified number of other vessels damaged. Details were held back by the Navy as their disclosure would be of value to the enemy.

1892: Carmen at Windsor LONDON - A performance of

"Carmen" was given at Windsor Cas-tle last night [Dec. 3] hy the Covent Garden Opera Company. The func-tion was a most successful one. The house party consisted of Her Majesty, the Grand Duke and Duchess Sergius of Russia, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and their children and a few others. The principals, the chorus and orchestra carefully attuned their efforts to the acoustics of the limited auditorium. The Queen graciously expressed her entire approval of the performance, which she said was admirable. The appliance was said was admirable. The appliance was most enthusiastic. This is undoubtedly the greatest and most elaborate presentation ever given at Windsor.

SOFIA — Premier Radoslavof has announced that Bulgaria immediate-ly replied to Lemm's proposal for an armistice that she was ready to enter

OPINION

Opposing Russian Visions, **Across the Waiting Abyss**

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Looking down into the abyss of hyperinflation — a condition that bred totalitarianism in Germany — Russian leaders, old and new, are now deciding which economic model to follow.

One model is Western-style capitalism that couples political democracy with free markets. The Poles and Czechs, having accepted the hardship of such "shock therapy," are making this dual freedom work.

The other model is the sort of "capitalism with an inhuman face" practiced in China, This allows the old Communist elite to remain in power while per-

mist ente to remain in power winte permitting certain free markets to flourish.
Boris Yeltsin and his reformest righthand man, Yegor Gaidar, want both
halves of freedom enjoyed by Americans.
They are opposed in Moscow by the
Civic Union industrialists, who position
themselves between the Yeltsin reformers and the nutry nationalists and Communists. These men want authoritarian control of politics and the economy, but with some toleration of private enterprise. "The Chinese people feed themselves," said Arkady Volsky, a longtime Andropov-Brezhnev aide, "and 1.2 billion are living a life of which we can only dream." Some dream.

Those are the two visions in collision in Moscow this week. The anti-reformers are posing as pragmatists who only want to "go slow" in moving toward a free economy. They profess concern for the human hardships in the wrenching away from their old command economy. Some Westerners - mainly Gorbophiles — are touting the Volsky faction as moderate, practical and centrist, al-most Clintonian in its reasonableness.

Let us not be taken in by the siren song of moderation. The anti-reformers want to stop the privatization of the huge enterprises that ought to be made competi-tive or shut down. They want to stop the sale of land to farmers and keep agricul-ture in the inefficient hands of the old collectives. Bring back price control, they say, and let bureaucrats rather than consay, and let outcand as range than con-sumers dictate what is produced.

In the first half of this year, reform began to take hold; private plots tripled to 20 million, and today are the bulwark

against starvation. But since July, the Russian Parlia-

ment — 87 percent Communists elected before the attempted comp—has managed to turn back the reformist clock. What can the West do to help Russia avert a Tiananmen economy?

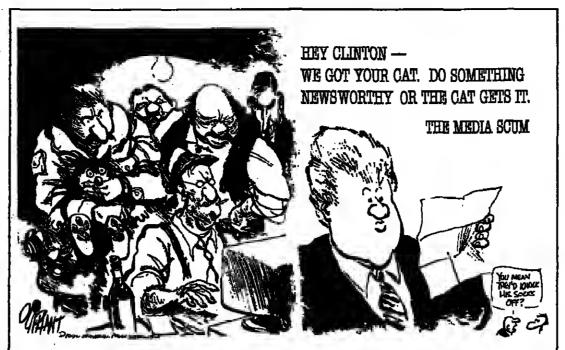
Western governments should resched-ule the old Soviet debt, taking off a little pressure, and come through on promises of visible humanitarian aid. But private investment, joint ventures, is the answer; that will happen only as Russian reformers win their battle to establish the primacy of private property.

Mr. Yeltsin, though he bobs and

weaves to avert a coup, knows this, He stopped compromising with the Volsky elite on state control of the oil industry last week, decreeing privatization. The world's largest oil producer is the most mefficient; when Russia opens the profit potential to oil, world business will help Russia get back on its feet.

We should root for the amalgam of political and economic freedom. That calls for a new constitution followed by elections, and a mandate for private farms and stock ownership of industry.

Maybe Boris Yeltsin, who retains more popular support than any Russian leader, can bring it off. From the sidelines, we should at least let the Russian people know that the American model is far better than the Chinese. The New York Times.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Neutral Eyes in the Sky

Regarding "Sell Photos, Not Satel-lites" (Opinion, Nov. 28):

The editorial writer fears that U.S. satellites, sold to other countries, might fall into "the wrong hands" and be used to "target missiles." It urges a "firm no" to foreigners' requests to buy high-tech reconnaissance satellites.

The answer to the threat of missile attacks is disarmament. The INF Treaty is a model, the Missile Technology Control Regime a useful stop-gap.

Disarmameot requires assurance against bad surprises; unsuspected nu-clear programs, treaty evasion, weapons buildup, training for offense, novel threats. Satellites peer into closed states, threaten exposure, and reassure the state

keeping a watch.
The idea that states could simply buy satellite photos from Washington has two fatal flaws. These states could expect no effective coverage of the United States, or U.S. deployments abroad. And they could never be quite sure whether what they have been given is complete, and is what it is said to be.

Several autonomous surveillance capabilities, at least one sold to all comers without editing or selection, would promise a safer world, because mutual assurance would be more possible. BRUCE D. LARKIN.

Clonakilty, Ireland.

Happily Monarchical

Amid all the troubles plaguing the British royal family, there seems to be some confusion about the definition of modern monarchy. The British (and some of the French) have argued that they are democracies and therefore cannot accept monarchy. They seem to.

and the second of the second of the second

overlook — or forget — the modern constitutional monarchies of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. It would be difficult to find more democratic nations.

In Scandinavia the monarch is the symbolic head of the land, a neutral figure who represents the constitution, never himself or berself. The monarch is a symbol around whom the whole nation can gather, he or she cannot repre-

sent only a part of the people.

In 1946, a Communist member of the Norwegian government asked King Haakon VII if His Majesty was not opposed to having a Communist in his government. "Sir," the king replied, "I am also the king of the Communists."

DAG SUNDBY.

Women and the Church

Regarding "Only Six for Women Isn't Christian" (Opinion, Nov. 26):

Anna Quindlen's vigorous arguments tion for the ordination of women in the Roman Catholic Church demands a reply in favor of caution. While discussing the ordination of women recently with Mother Teresa of Calcutta, she said: "How can a woman say, This is my body?"

I offer this observation by a person

who can hardly be accused of having a crabbed spirit, not in the belief that it should foreclose debate, but with the hope that it indicate a properly theologi-cal aspect to the question. Or is theology just sociology writ large?

JAMES SWETNAM.

The Soul of the Center Regarding "Crisis at Paris's American Center" (Dec. 2) by John Rockwell: I remember well, from my days as a

music student, the American Center of the 1960s. The building on Boulevard Raspail was nothing spectacular, but it offered work space for struggling musicians and artists, an inexpensive can-teen, and a place where members could

all, it offered plenty of good conversation and comradeship.

How times have changed! In the intervening years, we have had Reaganomics,

get a hot shower for one franc. Most of

the gimme decade, real estate as religion, the gimme decade, real estate as rengion, and the corporatizing of America's soul. The current center's chairman says: "The building is the star ... Artists will come in and go out year after year, but what's going to last is that building."

Sorry, but I beg to differ. Any institution that values cement and concrete.

more than people should cease pretending to be a center for the arts and for the name values that the arts represent. JOEL COHEN.

Director, The Boston Camerata. Newburyport, Massachusetts.

Screen the Candidates

Regarding "When a Candidate Is Ill" (Opinion, Nov. 27.):

Perhaps a panel should be appointed before the next U.S. presidential election, consisting of a school teacher, a psychiatrist, a nondenominational minister, Jane Fonda and a political science professor. They could test the candidates for spelling skills (Dan Quayle), ability to grasp reality (Ronald Reagan), sense of public ethics (Richard Nixon, George Bush), physical coordination (Gerald Ford), and understanding of the Washington insider system (Jimmy Carter). The results might help voters avoid past mistakes.

THOMAS G. PALAIMA. Salzburg.

With the GIs Into Somalia

The U.S. offer to send troops into Somalia to ensure that food reach the starving people there deserves much praise. Is is incumbent on the countries of Europe, and in particular the European Community, to fully support this project, particularly when they themselves were

unprepared to take the initiative. T. J. MAHER. Member of the European Parliament.

The Eye of the Needle

Christoph Bertram, in "Germany: Change the Slogan to 'Foreigners In!'" (Opinion, Nov. 30), is slightly off on one detail: for in practice, France does not accord citizenship to children born of foreign parents simply because birth akes place in France.

I can confirm from personal experi-ence that such children are granted French citizenship only if the parents meet, with full documentation, a number of conditions that seem to vary in contradictory fashion depending on which offi-cial source one consults. I have been told, for example, that the granting of citizenship depends partly on one parent's having been continuously employed full-time for the five years preceding the birth, which another source in the same administration denied.

After several time-consuming attempts, I have abandoned trying to ob-tain French citizenship for my son; his mother and I are unable to fit through the eye of the bureaucratic needle, I am American and my spouse is a non-EC West European. VINCENT M. BLOCKER

Mom in the Weight Room Doing Legs With Emilio

By Diana Morgan

am such a regular at the neighborhood gym that the men there call me Terminator 3; they say I remind them of Linda Hamilton, the actress who flexed along with Arnold Schwarznegger in "Terminator 2." What I really am is a mom who bas discovered the psychic

comforts of pumping iron.

I started lifting free weights a year ago after my second child was born.

MEANWHILE

Taking care of two kids under age 3 was like being trapped in a trash can with Oscar the Grouch, I needed a break, I found it in the weight room of the Capitol Hill Squash and Fitness Club.

I was shy at first, and a little out of place. Most women at the club go upstairs to the stationary bicycles or over to the aerobics classes. Very few join the men in the weight room, where the light falls harshly and the floor is carpeted in black rubber. Mirrors reflect rows of chrome hand weights and pyramids of thick iron discs. Beefy, half-naked men stand in front of the mirrors and heft weights the size of fire hydrants. They groan loudly and their eyes bulge.

t got over my fear by closing my eyes, gritting my teeth and pretending that I, too, had arms the size of hams. I apologized when I wanted to take a turn on a machine, and I pestered the staff with naive questions. I lifted ever larger weights and watched my muscles grow. I didn't think too much. It was exhilarating. Surrounded by the faint odor of male sweat, I learned a muscular peace that is usually off-limits to harried mothers.

Every morning now I park my I12-year-old daughter in the gym nursery and head upstairs to the free weight room. I whip out my notebook and for each exercise record the muscle group, the weight and the number of repetitions. In the mirror my eye follows the

soft curve of new muscle.

The subtlety of female anatomy impresses me. The men usually go for bulk.
They strain to lift immense weights, bragging afterward about the amount of body weight they have put on I am going for definition, a goal that requires many repetitions of a lower weight.

Still, I have learned that lifting weights is not just about developing or defining muscle. The fun is decoding the movements and finding the mental grit to lift a weight over and over.

Some days at the gym I work on my back muscles, on others my arms and chest, but the high points of the week are the leg days. Twice a week I do squats, a maneuver that entails balancing across my shoulders a pole loaded with 155 pounds (70 kilograms) and then bending and straightening my knees 20 times. As I lift the pole I feel the muscles contract

WASHINGTON — I used to be and am always surprised by how power-cursed with skinny arms. Now 1 ful they are. The weight glides effortlessly through the air. I imagine myself not as Linda Hamilton, but as Arnold himself. By the 19th squat, my leg muscles are shricking and my heart is pounding. I only make number 20 through stupid determination. When I put down the

weight I am high on adrenaline.
It is hard to find such intensity of focus taking care of children. On any afternoon in our kitchen, my daughter is climbing onto the stove, my 4-year-old son is wbacking the oak table with a child's wooden croquet mallet and the phone is ringing. Usually there is lunch to be wiped off the wall, and I am

preparing for a nervous breakdown. Relief comes in the mornings. Some times I do legs with Emilio, one of the weight room staff. We spot each other on the weights, yakking to no great pur-pose, the main point being the lifting, We compare notes, but without any edge of competition. It's a male sort of experi-

ence, I think, enjoying by doing together. With my female friends, who tend to be of an intellectual bent, we talk about our children with great intensity, peer-ing into every crevice of their lives, analyzing each speck of childhood dust. Emilio and I listen thoughtfully to each other's stories, but much of the joy of the conversation is that, like lifting weights, it is separate from the rest of life.

I have not been able to persuade the other mothers to join me in the weight room. Like many women they are uncomfortable with their bodies. I think, It takes conceit as well as discipline to stand half-naked in front of a mirror

pumping iron.
And there are days when all I can see are the bags under my eyes from late nights with my daughter, or the belly not fully recovered from two pregnancies. On bad days like that, it is easier to have an aerobics instructor or a Nautilus machine take the lead.

An older lady told me in the locker room that she hated seeing women lift weights because it was so disturbing when they grunted. Emitting animal sounds and having big muscles is not considered feminine. My guess is that Linda Hamilton, who grimaced and groaned all the way through "Terminator 2," was acceptable only because she attacked the bad guys to save her young son. She was just a mom with muscles, swept up in a storm of maternal rage.

Sometimes when I'm lifting, a couple of men will come stand around and watch. Often one will whistle in a friendly way. Then they ask after my kids and say what a help it must be to have such strong arms with which to carry them.

Diana Morgan is a Washington writer specializing in science and women's is-sues. She contributed this comment to The Washington Post.



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CREATING THE RIGHT CHEMISTRY



17.00 17.00 17.00 18.00

Under all that wattage "les Strasbour-geois" will this month be illuminated in the scrupulous and contented observance of customs, rituals and traditions that reach back four centuries. For in few other European cities and nowhere else in France — not even in Paris - is Christmas celebrated with the natural conviction, respect for ceremony, and generosity of spirit that it is here. Stras-bourg demonstrates that there is more to Christmas in France than an unearthly yule log stuck with marzipan mushrooms or a side of smoked salmon from Hédiard.

Cut off geographically from Paris and handed savagely back and forth by France and Germany over rough oppressive centu-ries, Strasbourg and the easternmost prov-ince of Alsace, of which it is the capital, have their own granite identity. The proof is that even many French people find the city "dépaysant," by which they mean it has a displacing effect. They do not necessarily express this regretfully. It is just that the confluence of cultures — poker-faced Teutonic rationalism married to high-pitched Latin emotionalism—can be a little uproot-ing. To a visitor with anything more profound than a Michelin green guide experi-

Strasbourg's Christmas Market

difference is the three-star Hotel Cathedrale. Its appeal lies not so much in its rooms as in its location opposite the cathedral. Longer on charm and with only a slightly less spectacular site nearby is the two-star Hôtel

For many of the people of Strasbourg,



Nativity scene by Henry Bacher.

cance of the other principal cities of France, the difference is palpable.

A good base from which to savor the A good base from which to savor the Common annexation of Alsace from 1940 to 1944. During World War II the city's Christmas market was bumped from the Place Broglie by German troops needing a place to stage their military parades. The Treaty of Westphalia awarded Alsace to Louis XIV in 1648, but that has never stopped its neighbor on the other side of the Rhine from trying to possess it. Germany had taken Alsace be-fore, from 1871, after the Franco-Prussian war, to 1918.

A year-end market in which gifts are sold A year-end market in which gits are sold has been held in Strasbourg since the 16th century, although in the early years it took place on Saint Nicholas Day, Dec. 6, not, as now, during the weeks leading up to Christmas. In 1570 a Protestant preacher virulently spoke out against the "Niklausmarkt," railing that it was papist for children to believe it was Saint Nicholas who supplied their presents, not Jesus. To appease both Protestants and Catholics, the name was changed to and Catholics, the name was changed to "Christkindelmarik" and the date pushed closer to Christmas.

Today there are about 200 stalls spread over an acre (about four-tenths of a hectare). According to François Kuenemann, who oversees the fair, stands are handed down guardedly from one family member to another. With the death of "Le Père" Rom-

ming, a veteran seller of Christmas decora-tions, his booth went to his daughter, who assumes that her son will carry on after her and his children after him. In February, Romming's daughter is already traveling around Italy buying ornaments for the following season. Tinselly of course and even vulgar, with its ghastly skewers of chocolate-dipped fruit

and fresh coconut slices squirted by toy fountains, the fair offers plenty to despise. But there are also carved wooden toys from Atelier Christ, authentic Provençal creche figures from Novara, handsome mirrors from Artisanal Bambou, beeswax candles from Bernard Gil, and couronnes de l'Avent from the tree vendors. The fir wreath symbolizing hope is hung from the ceiling with a ribbon. Every home, every church has one. It would be reckless to visit Strasbourg without also visiting one of the city's great food markets — watching edgent Alsatian housewives shop for their own tables is as

instructive as a class in any fancy cooking school, and free. The Krutneau quarter is the venue for sauerkraut and all the pig parts you need to make choucroute garnie, Rue de Molsheim the place for fole gras au torchon. The fattened liver of a force-fed goose wrapped in a dish cloth and cooked in bouillon, this fole gras is also on the menu at S'Geisstuewel in

Bath illustrations are from "Naël - Wihnachte en Alsace" by Gérard Leser, Editions du Rhin.

the typically Alsatian village of Geispolsheim. Fifteen minutes from Strasbourg, the restaurant is also known for choucroute with haddock and fresh and smoked salmon, and for an atmosphere that manages to be both sophisticated and provincial

Never shy about food, the people of Strasbourg step up their eating campaigns at Christmas, breaking for tea at Christian, with

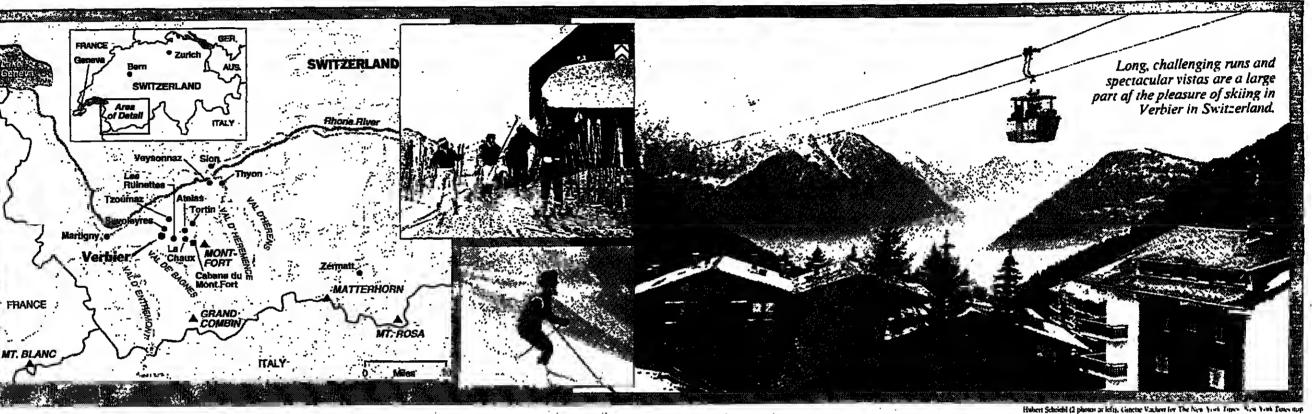
its outrageous trompe l'oei facade of clocks and columns and cherubs, or for chocolar Viennois at Suzel. With her sleek straw-colored hair, owner Odette Jung is straight out of an Alsatian children's book by Uncle Hansi

Le Crocodile is the sort of starched gastronomic temple where the waiters carry out their elaborate choreography with great precision, the silver sparkles, and nobody laughs out loud. Chef Emule Jung has earned his three Michelin stars and as many Gault-Millau toques with dishes like lamb pot-au-leu with red pepper butter. The restaurant also has a model wine list featuring Alsatian appel-lations and their best exponents: Riesling from Kienzler, Tokay from Trimbach.

"Winstubs." or wine hars, are to Strasbourg what "bouchons" are to Lyon and pubs are to London. And Chez Yvonne is to the city what Lipp is to Paris. Yvonne makes a big deal over friends while giving strangers the deep freeze. But the beef liver quenelles, or dumplings, are excellent. Le Clou. Le Tire Bouchon. Au Pont Corbeau, and Le Saint Sepulcure are wine bars that envy her success.

In the winstubs as throughout Strasbourg, the duality born of its tough history is ines-capable. French is spoken in the aisles of the Christmas market alongside the German dialect that is Alsatian, making it a city apart. Strasbourg is neither Munich in a Chanel suit nor Bordeaux in a boiled wool jacket.

Christopher Petkanas is the author of "At Home in France," a book about eating and



Watashi o Dalte Soightte Kisu Shite Directed by Junya Sato. Ja-

A typical young Japanese working woman, independent, adventuresome, tests positive for HIV. She knows where she got it and looks the person up only to find him in the final stages. All alone, desperate, she is

LEICA R6.2. **FASCINATION** FOR A LIFETIME





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picked up by another young man and eventually lets him sleep with her. Japan's first film about AIDS here departs from all prior educational entertain-ment on the subject. Yet we are not supposed to find her act reprehensible. Rather, we are to feel the further her terrible and ostracized loneliness. Also, so intended or not, we detect resemblences to other traffickings in female misery in film and tube. Like the girl with TB or the lady with leukemia she is the very stuff of bome drama. The title, "Hold Me, Then Kiss Me," is one of her lines. And, sure enough, in a tear-filled finale she dies on camera, content that the young man didn't catch it nor did their resulting infant. Stereotype einema though this is, the nature of the subject and the skill of the actress Yoko Minamino make the picture affecting. There is a dumh pop theme song and an abundance of stock scenes, but there is also a hard truth about the picture - as when she offers a well-meaning do-gooder a soft drink into which she has dunked her fingers and then watches the weaseling.
(Donald Richie, IHT)

La Crise

Directed by Coline Serreau.

France. Victor (Vincent Lindon) wakes up one morning to find that his wife has left him. But the day has just begun. Later in the morning, his boss and loyal secretary give him the shaft. Wifeless, jobless, he turns to friends, but nobody has time to listen to him: They are all — ehildren, parents, friends — going through their own crises. Only a pathetic stray (Patrick Timsit) sticks to his side, a pain, but faithful to the end. Lindon and Timsit make a good pair and the minor roles are perfect with Maria Pacome



Costner in Jackson's "The Bodyguard."

listen because she's taking off with a young lover and Zabou as the upwardly mobile sister. Serreau has chronicled changes in sexual roles and expectations since the '70s in a series of social comedies. Success, including a Hollywood remake of "Trois hommes et un couffin," has not blunted her wit.

(Joan Dupont, IHT) The Bodyguard

Directed by Mick Jackson.

U. S. Deep inside the vague, unfo-cused excesses of "The Bodyguard," the tale of a buttoned-down security agent hired to

protect a glamorous pop star. there lurks the potential for a compelling film noir. Frank Farmer (Kevin Costner), the bodyguard of the title, could have been a loner in a lastchance profession, terminally alienated from his own past. Rachel Marron (Whitney Houston), the glittery singer, could have been drawn tantalizingly as both treacherous vixen and damsel in distress. As writ-ten by Lawrence Kasdan in the mid-1970s, "The Bodyguard" could have capitalized on the dark elements within each principal character. It might have made a lean romantie thriller instead of the long, sprawling semi-travelogue it has become.

(Janet Maslin, NYT) Home Alone 2: Lost in New York Directed by Chris Columbus.

Somehow, they did it again. This Christmas, the McCallister brood is Florida-bound. And, somehow, Kevin, played by the impossibly adorable Macau Culkin, is separated from his family at the airport. Somehow. he ends up in the Big Apple. Somehow, Marv and Harry (Daniel Stern and Joe Pesci), the bad guys from the first film, escape from prison, popping up in Manhattan to make plans for a Christmas Eve raid on a toy store. Does it matter that "Home Alone 2," like the first "Home Alone," has huge dead

spots in it? That it never seems to get going, sputtering its way through gags that could be fun-nier if Chris Columbus were anything other than a seconddrawer director? Nope. Mac takes care of everything. He's dare you not to love him.

Verbier: Great Views, Skiing Too

By Adele Riepe

New York Times Service TERBIER, Switzerland - The cable car to Mont-Fort, the last link in a three-stage journey from the center of Verbier to the peak at 10,800 feet (about 3,300 meters), sways above the glacier and I catch my breath, wondering aloud to my husband if my intermediate skiing abilities are sufficient for the descent unfolding below. Two choices appear beneath me - an intermediate and an expert run — parallel, equally steep, both of them a mass of moguls, but the expert run is

A fellow passenger offers me reassurances: It is warm today, the snow is not as hard as it often is and it hasn't snowed for some time so the moguls are no longer chesthigh or worse. Besides, one can always take the cable car back down to Col des Gentianes. I tell myself that would be no disgrace - many skiers come up this last leg of the three-part ascent just for the view.

And the view is spectacular, stunning even the most experienced alpinists. From Mont-Fort one can see the Matterhorn, Monte Rosa, Mont Blanc, the Grand Combin and a. host of other famous peaks of the French. Swiss and Italian Alps. To the south are the slopes of Verbier, farther below, the plains of the Bagne Valley surrounded on all sides by the mountains of the Canton of Valais.

Ignoring a sign in three languages "Caution hard snow! Only for good skiers" — I start my descent and, to my surprise, manage easily, if inelegantly, down the inter-mediate run. My courage bolstered, I ski the moguls all the way down the long steep slope to a schuss ending at the 200-year-old mountaineer's refuge, the Cabane du Mont-Fort, for a well-earned glass of wine and some cheese fondue. It has taken nearly 40 minutes and I am a little more than halfway to Verbier.

Long challenging runs and spectacular vistas are a large part of the pleasure of skiing in Verbier. There are more than 200 miles (320 kilometers) of runs and 100 lifts on the Quatre Valless (Four Valleys) lift ticket, the largest area in terms of lifts and runs in Switzerland. (Cross-country skiing

fans will find Verbier disappointing.) The village itself is charming, although bigger than most Swiss ski resorts, with hundreds of two- and three-story chalets clinging to the mountain, many of them luxurious private homes behind a simple chalet facade. There are few boutiques; most shops are for sports clothes and equipment, and there is none of the ostentatiousness of Saint Moritz. The sporty atmosphere - skiing and hang glidsporty atmosphere — sking and nang gnd-ing in the winter, golf and mountain biking in summer — is cahanced by the understated evening attire of its visitors, who appear to prefer turtlenecks and jeans (topped occa-sionally by an Armani blazer), to jewels and

Since most of the area is well above 6,000 feet, the snow is generally reliable, and is not perverted by the insidious mixing of artifi-cial snow with the real stuff, which turns heavily skied areas into solid concrete. Slopes are judiciously groomed, leaving pleaty of variety for the beginner or intermediate skier while the steeper runs are untouched. The runs are surrounded by vast, tantalizing areas of off-piste skiing — deep powder after a fresh snowfall, crusty and difficult at other times, acres of corn snow in the spring.

Two major ski areas are reached by lifts directly from Verbier. Savoleyres, at the northern part of town with wide, sunny slopes, is serviced by a gondola up to the top (7,721 feet) and a number of chairlifts and Poma lifts. There are beginner and intermediate runs and a couple of longer and more challenging ones heading down the northern face to the town of Tzoumaz with a gondola back to the top. But the much larger and more varied area is reached by the Medran lifts rising near the Place Centrale in Verbier. The first stage consists of two gondolas and a parallel chainlift (the lift runs only during the Christmas season, February, March and

From the top of the Medran gondolas at Les Ruinettes (7,216 feet) there is a choice of 25 lifts, including gondolas and chairlifts and the 150-passenger cable car, to Col des Gentianes at 9,500 feet. Another gondola goes to the Mont-Fort glacier at 10,800 feet. From the Col des Gentianes there is a spectagniar expert up long years steen and retacular expert run, long, very steep and mo-guled, considered by many the best run in

the region. It is serviced by a Tortin gondola.

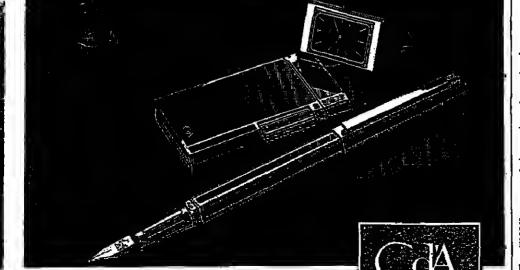
The Tortin run is also the first leg of a wonderful, full day's ski circuit through the Quatre Vallees. A guide is not required as the way is clearly marked, with new, more visible signs this winter, and the runs, with the exception of the Tortin, should present no problem for the average skier. If the Tortin (classed as expert) seems too daunting, take the gondola down. After that it is all excellent intermediate skiing up and down the Valais mountains, culminating in the resort of Thyon 2000 and the World Cup run called

the Piste d'Ours. Immediately after the lifts close Verbier's lively but not frenetic après-ski life, which is casual rather than chic or elegant, gets going. The most popular spots for drinks or coffee, just below the Medran lifts, fill up quickly: the Off-Shore, owned by a Hawaii surfing fan who serves no alcohol, where snowboards stacked out front attest to a young and very sporty crowd; the Pub Mont-Fort, which attracts the 20s to thirtysomething crowd, most of them singles, and the Rosalp bar, for the wealthier set. The best pizza is served at the always crowded Fer à Cheval, which is lively until late evening. Then the action starts at the Farm Club, a venerable disco with the wood-paneled decor of an old barn and a convivial ambiance for all ages.

ESTAURANTS abound, from simple pizzerias to elegant haute cuisine establishments. In between there are a number of choices, none of them cheap. (Even small pizzas run about \$12.) For a good meal at a "medium" price, the unassuming, cozy L'Ecurie is a local favorite, offering fresh pastas and risottos as well as assorted meat, chicken and fresh fish dishes. La Taverne, across the street, fancier, more expensive and more French, serves hreast of duck in red wine, or filet of lamb with garlic.

Most visitors to Verbier stay in single chalets or apartments in one of the larger chalet buildings, most of which have a spectacular view and a sunny balcony facing south. A typical four-star, four-bed one rents for about \$950 for one week, \$1,400 for two.

For those who opt for a hotel, there are eight four-star establishments. A double at the Rosalp runs \$275 to \$290 with breakfast.



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Books for Stuffing Children's Stockings

By Christopher Lehmann-Haupt New York Times Service

(Hal Hinson, WP)

EW YORK - Children "still believe in God, the family, angels, devils, witches, goblins, log-ic, clarity, punctuation and other such obsolete stuff," said fsaac Bashevis

Singer in 1978 on receiving the Nobel Prize in Literature picture books published in the United States this year.

SHORTCUT, by Donald Crews (Greenwillow Books/William Morrow, \$14). It's late, so seven children decide to take the shortcut home along the railroad tracks, which run along a mound with ditches on

train going thunderingly past you.

JUNE 29, 1999, by David Wiesner (Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin, \$15.95). On May I I, 1999, from her home in Ho-Ho-Kus. New Jersey, an intensely serious Holly Evans, "after months of careful research and planning," launches vegetable seedlings into the sky in little baskets attached to balloons. Here are some of the best children's Seven weeks later, gigantic vegetables descend. Wiesner's wonderfully detailed watercolors reveal the far-out resolution of this surrealistic fantasy.

MATILDA, WHO TOLD LIES, AND WAS BURNED TO DEATH, by Hilaire Belloc; illustrated by Posy Simmonds (Knopf, \$15). Belloc's cantionary tale about the little either side, "surely full of snakes." They girl who cried, "Fire!" Simmonds's Matilda is know when the passenger trains pass, but the so charmingly evil-looking that you almost

Giroux, \$15). On a lone-eagle flight to Paris, the imperturbable, mustached Freddy Le-Grand crashes in France and is rescued by

 An Italian movie company wants to rehabilitate Genghis Khan by looking at his nice side. They're also going to rehabilitate his looks, it seems, since he is being played by a blond American actor called Richard Tyson. When the Associated Press asked Tyson how he went about giving the famous Mongol a human dimension, he said that during one scene he laughs when two young women

tickle him. Next: Attila the Hun.

muted watercolor and gouache, Crews cap.

THE RETURN OF FREDDY Letures the intense excitement of a long freight GRAND, by Jon Agee (Farrar, Straus & inspired to take up the study of accounties. inspired to take up the study of aeronautics.

Agec's hilarious pictures look a little as if

Charles Lindbergh had been imagined by the New Yorker cartoonist Peter Arno.

MIRETTE ON THE HIGH WIRE, by Emily Arnold McCully (Putnam, \$14.95). Mirette's mother runs a successful Paris boardinghouse for acrobats, jugglers, actors and mimes. But Mirette is drawn to a secretive nightrope walker, whom she forces to teach her his art. The author's vividly colored illustrations capture a 19th-century Paris cityscape that is charmingly suggestive of Toulouse-

THE WIDOW'S BROOM, by Chris Van Allsburg (Houghton Mifflin, \$17.95), Once again, the incomparable Van Allsburg invents an imaginative story, this time about a talented broom presented to a farm widow by a witch in gratitude for kindnesses rendered.

The Essential Brasserie

At Train Bleu, Watch the Comings and Goings

By Patricia Wells International Herald Tribune

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ARIS - If you are looking for the quintessential Parisian brasserie, you have it in Le Train Rieu, the grand, glorious, sparkling Belle Epoque restaurant decorated in 1900 in honor of the World's Fair.

The two giant dining rooms with their eclectic, "neo-renaissance baroque" decor - are adorned with signed paintings by more than 30 provincial artists, each selected to depict the glories of his region. The paintings fill the walls, curling up onto the ceil-ing, and their cheeriness is particularly welcoming on gray Parisian days.

Train stations are always points of suspension and antici-padon — everyone is either compacon — everyone is either com-ing or going, so they are a no-man's-land — which makes Le Train Bleu an intriguing spot. I sometimes go especially to peo-ple-watch: gazing at the pair of chatty Germans on the adjacent banquette; wondering who that gentleman is, dining alone in the corner with his Paris Match and half-bottle of Bordeaux; studying the young lean waiters, per-forming their fast-paced ballet as they rush from table to table.

The food here is more than "correct," meaning there's a good chance you'll leave satis-fied, with an appetite to return another day. Try the top-quality poached Lyonnais pork sausage (direct from the Lyonnais charcuterie, Sibilia), served with warm steamed potatoes; a satisfying salad of green beans, lob-ster and lamb's lettuce; an acceptable salmon steak served with the tarragon-flavored Béarnaise sauce, and a fine steak tartare, prepared tableside and seasoned to your taste.

HE service is as good as one could anticipate at a place as bustling as this, although it could be a touch more personal and cheery. The dull white bread, on the other hand, desper-

ately needs attention.

The wine list offers a fair, and fairly priced, assortment of Saint-Joseph from the wine mak-



er Philippe Faury. The restaurant offers a 280-franc menu très grande vitesse, which it promises to deliver in 45 minutes, that includes foie gras, leg of lamb and dessert.

Le Train Bleu, by the way, was the legendary train that, up until the 1970s, took passengers from Paris and Calais to the blue skies of the Côte d'Azur.

If anyone can make a go of a Parisian brasserie, it should be Joel Fleury, longtime associate of France's brasserie king — Jean-Paul Bucher — best known for Brasserie Flo. La Coupole, and the group of Flo Prestige

charcuteries.

After years as a leader of the Flo group, the youthful, energetic and energizing Fleury has decided to set oot on his own. He recently took over the flailing Grand Colbert, The 120-seat restaurant boasts a huge wood-andchrome bar, giant balloon lamps, black leatherette banquettes and etched glass panels that divide the room into smaller, more inti-mate dining areas.

Fleury hasn't yet turned the place around, but I'd bet good

money that in six months it will be packed day and night. Le Grand Colbert still lacks that

properly boisterous Parisian ambience. But the decor has promise and the menu offers great value, with a 155-franc meno that includes a first course, maio course, dessert, coffee and a small carafe of wine.

The menu is traditional, but ample enough to keep most of us quite happy. If I could give one word of advice to the chef, it would be: Keep things simple and classic and leave creativity to another day. Papillon oysters were fresh and welcoming, and the simple green bean salad was fine, save for the lack of basic

The bosuf gros sel — various cuts of beef boiled with root vegetables — was copious, with more than three pieces of beef and the delicious queue de boeuf, or oxtail, swimming along with varied vegetables in a decent stock. The dish, however, served in a shallow soup bowl, was al-most impossible to eat. Thankfully, the chef did not tinker with the simple serving of saumon a l'unilaterale, perfectly cooked and served with wild mushrooms and a clump of spinach along-

ESSERTS need help; Le Grand Colbert offers the famed upside-down apple tart, tarte Tatin, as a special, but I found oothing special about a room-temperature apple tart sprinkled with sliced almonds and set in a pool of caramel

The wine list is more than satisfactory, with a 1989 Guigal Gi-gondas at 136 francs, a drinkable 1991 Saumur-Champigny, Ré-serve des Vignerons at 111 francs, and a 1991 Duboeuf Julienas at 104 francs.

Le Train Bleu, Gare de Lyon, Paris 12; tel: 43.43.38.39. Open daily. Credit cards: American Express, Diners Club, Visa. Menu at 280 francs, A la carte, 300 francs.

Le Grand Colbert, 2 Rue Vivienne, Paris 2; tel: 42.86.87.88. Open daily. Credit cards: American Express, Visa, Menu at 155 francs, including wine. A la carte, about 200 francs per person.

AUSTRIA

Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig (tel: 782.550). To Jan. 3: "Bertrand Lavier." A retrospective of

the French artist's work. Ostarraichischa Gsierie (181: 78.41.58.29). To Jan. 8: "Ferdinand Hodler und Wen." A selection of Hodler's masterpieces, mainly portraits and landscapes.

BELOIUM

Muses d'Art Moderne (tel: 508.32.11). To Dec. 13: "L'Avant-Garde en Belgique, 1917-29." Concentrates on the early activities of the Belgian Surrealists.

Halina House (tel: 831,1772). To Jan. 16: "Darny Lyon: Photo-Film 1959-1990." The first British retro-spective featuring works by this American ethnographic photogra-

pher.
Royal Acadamy of Arts (tal: 439.7438). To Dec. 13: "Wisdom and Compassion: The Sacred Art of Tibet." Tibetan art dating from the 8th century to the present day. Includes 160 paintings, sculptures and tapestries. To Feb. 14: "Sickert." One hundred and thirty-four paintings commemorating the 50th anniversary of the British artist'a death.

Montreel
Canadian Centre for Architecture
(tel: 939.7020). To Jan. 17: "The
Gates of 18th-century Montreel." Exhibition marking the city's 350th anniversary. Explores architectural development during the 18th century and
features 350 plans, manuscripts,
tools and artifacts, elong with a scala
model of the city. model of the city.

Ottawa National Gallery of Canada (tel: 990.1985). To Jan. 10: "William Kurelek." An installation celebrating tha 100th anniversary of the first Ulranians' arrival in Canada.

CZECHOŚLOVAKIA

Prague
Národnt Muzeum (tel: 269.451). To
Jan. 3: "Four Generations of Polish
Designers." Set designs and costurnes by artists such as T. Rozskowska, J. Kosinski, M. Kolodziaj and
A. Majowski.

DENMARK

Louisiana Museum of Modern Art (tei: 42,19.07.19). To Jan, 3: "Plerre Bonnard," Retrospective of the works of tha French painter.

FRANCE Hazebrouck

Muaéa Hazabrouck (tel: 28,41,88.00). To Dec. 31, 1994: "Di-alogues 1." Large collection of 17th-

GERMANY

Frankfurt Musée da Maraallta (tel: 91.56.28.38). To Jan. 17: "Gaetano Pesce." An exhibit of five new glass-working techniques,

Paris
Centre Georges Pompidou (tel;
42.77.12.33), To Jan. 11; "Art in
Latin America, 1911-1968," PaintIngs, sculptures, drawings and engravings by 82 artists from South and
Central America. To Jan. 24; "Peter
Fischer et David Weiss." An Installation comprised of ordinary objects
that offers a new perspective on modem times. To Feb. 1; "L'Univers de
Borges." Manuscripts, books, and
some of the emblematic objects that
belonged to the Argentine writer.

L'Engages." (tel:

INDONESIA

Jakarta

IRELAND

L'Eapaca Suffren (1el: 47.34.09.34). To Dec. 20: "David Hamilton: '25 Years of an Artist.' "An exhibition of photographs simulta-neous with the publication of the art-lst's book of the same name, Dublin
Tha Irish Museum of Modern Art
(tel; 718.666). To Jan, 10: "John
Heartfield." Photomontages which
critique the rise of Hitter and rightwing ideologies in Germany and elsewhere, includes a reconstruction of
the first Da Da room, exhibited in

Musée Picasso (tel: 42.71.25.21). To March 1: "Coms Crucies." A survey of 30 of Picasso's works, executed between 1892 and 1959, which

Jeu de Paume (tel: 47.03.12.50). To Jan. 31: "Martial Raysse." A retrospective of the neorealist's films and videos.

center on the crucifixion.

century Dutch paintings by the likes of Bosch, Rubens and Brueghel.

Shirn Kunsthalia (tel: 299 88 20). To Feb. 10: "Gabriela Monter." A retrospective of the German painter who was et one time married to Kan-

Well am Rhein

Wen am Finem
Vitre Daaign Muaeum (tel:
702.200). To March 28: "Ministuren," A series of classical ministures which exemplify furniture design over the past few decades.

World Trada Center (tel: 521,1125), To Feb. 28: "Raksasa." Indonesian sculptures executed between the 10th and 20th centuries.

Armsterdam
Van Gogh Museum (tel: 570.5200).
To Feb. 7: "Glasgow 1900: Art &
Design." More than 100 paintings,
crawings and crafts from artists of the Dublin Glasgow School. SPAIN

"Anietta and Mona," from David Hamilton's book; inset: "Kurt Vonnegut," in Karsh exhibition in New York.

Kitakyushu

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam

To Feb. 3: "British Figurative Paintings of the 20th Century." Seventy-five paintings by 24 artists of the "School of London," including Michael Adams, Frank Auerbach, Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud.

Kitakyushu Municipal Museum ot Art (tel; 093,882,7777), To Jan. 24: "Henry Moore Exhibition; 'Intima.' " Two hundred and fifty of the artist's

artists who started working together in the '60s.

SWITZERLAND

Museum für Antike Kunst und Lud-wig Sammlung (tel: 271,22.02). To March 28: "Paradersos: Representa-tions of Animals from Ancient Persia in the P. Suter-Dursteler Collection." Sculpture from diverse provinces and different epochs of ancient Iranian civilization.

UNITED STATES

Tokyo
Gotoh Museum (tel: 3703,0661).
To Dec. 25: "Tea Ceremony Utensils," Sixty Items by the Morroyama/Edo period tea masters Sen Rikyu and Koborl Enshu. New York New York international Center of Photography (tel: 768.4682), To Jan. 24: "Karsh: American Legends," Illuminates legends such as Halen Hayes, Jasper Johns, H. Norman Schwarzkopl end Leonard Bernstein through black-and-white and color photographs.

graphs.
The Jewish Museum (tel: 399.33.91). To Dec. 20: "Conviven-cia; Jews, Muslims and Christans in Medieval Spain." Medieval manu-scripts, textiles, ceramics and metal-

Washington National Museum of the American Barcelona
Fundació Joen Miró (tal: 357,2700), To Jan. 24:

| STAPEL | Serge: The Cosmological Pictures." Twenty-trva large-format pleces produced by this pair of British
| South and Central America. | National Museum of the American Indian (tel: 357,2700), To Jan. 24:
| Pathways of Tradition." Mora than 100 baskets, blankets, cradleboards and headdresses, which culturally represent Indian tribes from North, South and Central America.

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Page 10 Thursday's Prices "NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

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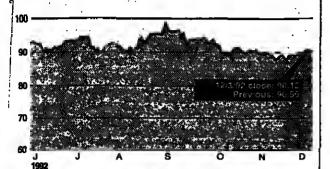


NONSTOP TO N.Y., S.F.: CHARMING ALL THE WAY

Page 11



nternational Herald Tribune World Stock Index c, composed f 230 internationally investable stocks from 20 countries. compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Franca, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Swaden and Switzerland. In the case of Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top the test for items of market capitalization. In the remaining

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Finance	80.94	B1,66	-0.88	Consumer Goods	93.52	93.65	`-0.14
Services	96.93	99.65	-0.72	Miscellaneous	92.28	94.76	-2.62

Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neully Cedex, France.

WALL STREET WATCH

Environmental Industry: A New Chance to Clean Up

By John Holusha

EW YORK - The passing of the Bush administration and the likely demise of its regulation-diluting Council on Competitiveness are generally considered good news for companies in the environmental business, analysts say. Under President Bill Clinton, they say, the government's tone will shift in favor of environmental projects.

"We are clearly going to see more enforcement of regulations in the new administration, more hazardous-waste cleanup and maybe more funding for waste-water plants," said Vishnu Swarup, an

analyst at Prudential Securities Research. The industry has been weak for the last two years as a The end of the Bush result of the economic recession years is considered and lax regulation, he said.

Grant Ferrier, editor of the good news. newsletter Environmental Busi-

oess Journal, said growth in the environmental industry slowed sharply in the 1990s after gaining at a 20 percent annual rate for most of the 1980s. Growth was 10 percent in 1990 and 2 percent last year, he said.

Now the San Diego-based poblication is projecting a return to higher growth. Revenues in the industry are expected to grow to \$174 billion by 1996, from about \$120 billion currently. That is \$28 billion more than the Environment Business Journal estimates the industry would have generated under a second Bush term.

During the recession, recycling in general was hurt because the price of new materials went down. The unexpectedly slow growth of recycling may help companies that collect and dispose of solid waste, argues Marc Sulam, an analyst with Kidder, Peabody & Co. Mr. Sulam is recommending Waste Management Inc., which is involved in so many areas that it has been called the "mutual fund of the environmental industry," and Browning Ferris Industries.

Other companies mentioned as good environmental plays in-

clude Sanofil, Midamerica Waste Systems, Rollins Environmental Services and Chemical Waste Management. Mr. Swarup, too, said he liked Waste Management and Browning

Ferris, saying their stock prices should appreciate as higher tipping fees at landfills add to earnings. He said he expected Waste Management's shares to rise 15 to 20 percent over the next two to three years. The stock closed Thursday at \$40.75.

Browning Ferris may have even more upside potential, Mr. Swarup said. The stock closed at \$25.625 Thursday.

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German Solidarity a Kohl Solo Act

By Brandon-Mitchener

FRANKFURT — A nebulous "solidarity pact" championed by Chancellor Helmut Kohl as the solution to e revival in Eastern Germany is finally beginning to take shape, with Bonn conceding additional billions to the cause of German unity.

But the so-called Solidarpakt which is supposed to be unveiled by Christmas, looks increasingly lopsided and more than likely will fall short of its indirect goal of a quick cut in German interest rates, analysts said.

Indeed, though the pact started out as a broad plea for mutual sacrifice by federal, state and local governments, trade unions and industry, it now looks as if Mr. Kohl will be making most of

Analysts said that two union wage settlements this week — by insurance workers and steel workers - gave hope for wage restraint, but did nothing to brake the quick rise of East German wages, the main cause of

"The solidarity pact is a buzz-word for politics as usual," said Meinhard Miegel, director of the Institute for Economic and Social Research in Bonn. "The next three years, the most important to Mr. Kohl, are going to be extremely difficult, and he wants someone to share responsibility, but the others, industry and unions, aren't

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung bluntly called the Solidarpakt an attempt by the government to find partners in misery. Its conclusion: "The government wants security."

Gutfreund

\$100,000

three months and fined \$50,000.

forced ont after the scandal came

to light in August 1991, admitted or

former head of Salomou Brothers'

government trading desk, after learning in April 1991 that he had submitted a false \$3.15 billion bid in

a Feb. 21, 1991, Treasury auction.

was violating the auction rules, "sonior management knew of the problem and chose to do nothing."

Mr. Breeden said.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Lombard rate

During the time when Mr. Mozer

Salomon has blamed Mr. Mozer

an honest firm that was severely

To Pay SEC

Germany Backs Trade Deal

BONN - As President François Mitterrand of France arrived Thursday for two days of talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, German officials supported an EC accord with the United States on farm subsidies that Paris has threatened to veto.

Germany said that it considered liberalizing world trade more important than protecting farmers.

The economics minister, Jürgen Möllemann, told German radio,
"It would be very problematic, if on top of a recession that has hit

most of the world, we also fell into a trade war that would drastically reduce our changes of ending this recession But French and German officials said they had agreed to postpone discussion of the trade issue until after the European Community

summit on Dec. 11 and 12, allowing EC leaders to focus on other Dieter Vogel, chief spokesman for Mr. Kohl, said the leaders' initial two-hour talks focused on speedy ratification of the Treaty on European Union, on EC finances and on expansion of the Community.

potential candidates for membership in an expanded EC should begin early next year and be completed by the end of the year," he said.

In Brussels, the United States and the EC completed the technical details of the agreement to end the dispute over subsidies to European farmers.

The president and the chancellor agreed that negotiations with

BRANDON MITCHENER

The idea for a solidarity pact harks back to the postwar consensus between employers and the employed that was the basis of West Germany's Wirtschaftswunder, or economic miracle. Eastern Germany, which is suf-fering from rapid post-unifica-tion wage growth that undermines the region's attractiveness for investors and facis inflation. could use a miracle.

Initially, Mr. Kohl said he would be willing to increase gov-ernment aid to East German industry if unions agreed to slow the pace of wage equalization.

Cuts in public-sector spending and e series of tax increases in the West, meanwhile, were seen as the fiscal means of coaxing the Bundesbank to ease its monetary policy, which in turn would encourage investment.

Mr. Kohl has done his part, but so far be has danced alone.

"As the government has staked its repotation on the conclusion of such a pact the unions now have the power to dictate the terms of the agreement," analysts at Goldman Sachs concluded in a recent report oo the pact, which they said was "backfiring."

Last week, Finance Minister Theo Waigel unveiled a program of 12 billion Deutsche marks (\$7.6 hillion) of aid for small and medium-sized husinesses in Eastern Germany, and Mr. Kohl, in a dramatic departure from past practice, said the government would conduct an active industrial policy to save key East German industries. No one has said how much the change in plans would

While growth in the federal budget is being kept to 2.5 per-cent, meanwhile, spending increases at the state and local government level, rather than being curtailed, are projected to average 6 to 8 percent "Especially when it comes to regional govern-ments. I think big savings are unrealistic," said Andrea Koop, an economist at Bank in Liechtenstein in Frankfurt.

Unions, key partners in the pact, so far have refused to suspend the contracts that program an equalization of East and West German wages hy 1994. "If unions say O.K. to slower wage growth in the East," said Mr. Micgel, "they weaken their bar-gaining position in the West" benpanies could shop for cheaper labor. "It's unrealistic to expect unions to make any sacrifices," be said.

Indeed, one reason Mercedes-Benz AG canceled plans to build a truck factory ocar Berlin was strong opposition from in-house unions, which feared job losses at West German sites. Andi AG, which also recently scrapped the peprints for an engine factory in Eastern Germany in favor of

See SOLIDARITY, Page 13

Suitors in Duel for Qantas British Air Wants It, Singapore Air Needs It

By Michael Richardson ional Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE - If British Airway's PLC makes its expected hid next week for a 25 percent stake in Qantas Airways Ltd. of Australia, it will be offering to WASHINGTON - John H. Gutfreund, the former chairman of Salomon Inc., agreed Thursday to pay \$100,000 and never again run a Wall Street firm, resolving charges stemming from last year's Treasury bond-bidding scandal. bring the airline into a global alliance that would pose a challenge to many other carriers but especially to Singapore Airlines, seen as the other leading contender in the bidding

Analysis say that such an alliance would provide Mr. Gutfreund and two other former top Salomon officials set-tled federal civil charges that they eater long-term benefits to Quotas than any deal Singapore Airlines, known as SIA, is likely to put forward on Dec. 9. failed to adequately supervise the firm's brokerage unit, which has admitted making bogus bids in They say that while SIA wants to work more closely

with Quntas to expand the services of both airlines without engaging in cut-throat competition, its interests are essentially competitive and defensive Richard C. Breeden, chairman of The prospect of a marriage between British Air-

the Securities and Exchange Com-mission, said the settlements ways, one of the world's largest and most profitable carriers, and Qantas, a leading player in Asia-Pacific aviation, "Strikes fear into the hearts of senior SIA marked the first monetary fines ever imposed on securities industry executives," said Colin M. Gibson, publisher and officials for failing to supervise a firm's activities. The fines levied executive editor of Asian Aviation magazine. against them were the maximum allowed under the law. an effective commercial link with Qantas it would

create two "very tough competitors" for SIA, said Peter Harbison, managing director of BDW Aviation Services, an airline consultancy based in Sydney. Along with Mr. Gutfreund, Salomon's former president. Thomas Strauss, was barred from the indus-He added that because there is "greater commonaltry for six months and fined ity of interest" between British Airways and Qantas \$75.000. Former vice chairman than between SIA and the Australian carrier, this John Meriwether was barred for

None of the men, who were aviation market, British Airways is weak in Asia and strong in Europe and across the Atlantic to North America where Qantas has little presence. demed wrongdoing.

The three were charged with failing to supervise Paul W. Mozer, the

can pass connecting passengers to each other as though they were traveling on the same service.

Analysts said that a tie-up between British Airways and Qantas would probably take the form of code-sharing to expand traffic, with some pooling of re-

sources to increase efficiency and profits.

SIA has indicated it would seek a 20 percent Qantas stake but might, as British Airways is expected to do. increase this to 25 percent and bring in institutional investors for a total 49 percent holding.

Other likely bidders are Briefley Investments Ltd. of New Zealand and its 42.5 percent-owned subsidiary, Air New Zealand, which likely will make a joint offer. Qantas owns 19.9 percent of Air New Zealand

If, as widely expected, British Airways or SIA wins the bidding for Qantas, the victor will be positioned to take a strong stake in Air New Zealand and gain a dominant position in the rapidly growing Pacific trav-

The Australian government is expected to announce its preferred purchaser by the end of the month.

Australia now owns 100 percent of Qantas but ha said that under its privatization program, up to 49 percept of the carrier would be sold to institutional buyers, including international airlines, next week.

The rest of Qantas will be offered to the public, If British Airways is successful in its bid and forges probably in mid-1993. Foreign interests will be allowed a maximum holding of 35 percent, with a limit of 25 percent on the amount that can be held by any one overseas entity. British Airways' interest in Qantas is "not a local

tactic," said Tony Liddiard, the sirline's manager for Southeast Asia. "It's part of a grand strategy." Quntas would give British Airways a greatly expand-d presence in Asia, the South Pacific and across the would result in "a stronger product package."

ed presence in Asia, the South Pacific and across the While SIA and Qantas are rivals in the Asia-Pacific Pacific to the U.S. West Coast. In return, the Australian

carrier would gain preferred access to the European and American networks of the British Airways group. Despite this obvious synergy, the outcome of the

This complementarity would be enhanced if BA's bidding is not a foregone conclusion because it will proposal to form a code-sharing alliance with USAir hinge on the size of the offers. The airline needs a hefty Group Inc. was approved by U.S. authorities later this cash injection to reduce debt so that it can grow more profitably.

Under code-sharing, allied airlines continue to fly
In September, Qantas acquired Australian Airlines,
as separate carriers but coordinate schedules so they one of the country's two main domestic carriers, for

crating officer.

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AP

plans to close or consolidate 21 Mr. Eaton came to Chrysler from

See QANTAS, Page 13

GM Identifies 9 Plants to Be Closed

for the wrongdoing.
"The SEC's long investigation has established that the Salomon Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches DETROIT - General Motors Corp., moving to stem massive losses in its North American car operations, on Thursday announced the shutdown of nine U.S. Brothers over which I presided was nounced the shutdown of nine U.S.

victimized by the inexplicable mis-conduct of an isolated individual," and Canadian plants affecting Mr. Gutfreund said in a statement. nearly 18,000 workers. GM announced last December

assembly and parts plants by late GM last spring, when be was 1995, including six assembly named vice chairman and chief opplants GM has earmarked for closure to 23.

Some of the affected workers will be able to transfer, while others will be laid off, GM said. The world's biggest carmaker said it would idle assembly plants at Wilmington, Delaware, and

Flint, Michigan.
GM also will close parts plants in Kalamazoo, Michigan; Syra-cuse, New York; Euclid, Ohio; Trenton, New Jersey; Livonia. Michigan, and Sioux City, Iowa.

GM also said it would aither sell or close its rear-axle operations in Catharines, Ontario, by late 1993. It also will accelerate the previously announced shutdown of a casting plant at the same site to the fall of 1994 from the spring of 1995. : GM's North American vehicle operations have lost about \$15 billion since 1990, including about \$3 billion on a pretax basis through

the first nine months of this year. Dissatisfaction with the pace of GM's downsizing and its continued losses led to the resignation under fire of Chairman Robert C. Stem-

elected chairman of Chrysler Corp. on Thursday, replacing Lee A. Iacocca, who is retiring.

Mr. Eaton, 52, was also elected chief executive by the board of directors. The changes take effect

The selection had been expected.

In Hong Kong, Stocks Teeter on Precipice's Edge

By Erik Ipsen

LONDON - Following the steep sell-off Thursday on the Hong Kong stock market, investors in Europe and North America beld on to their nerve and their shares, but analysis warned that further falls could quasb what confidence remains.

The Hong Kong stock market benchmark indicator, the Hang Seng index, collapsed 8.0 percent in its third day of panicky trading. Analysts outside the colony ap-peared less convinced than many in Hong Kong that the damage would

be long-term, although outside an-alysts were not exactly sanguine.

"Things are at a fairly critical point," said Chris Mitchell, head of the Far East desk at James Capel in London. He and others see the 4.800 level nn the Hang Seng index as a crucial support point that, if breached, could throw stocks into a free fall.

Given that the Hang Seng stood at 4,978.21 at Thursday's close. that does not allow a huge margin of safety. It is especially troubling given the fact that the market dropped by 433 poiots oo Thursday. lo terms of the oumber of points shed, that fall was the worst since the massacre outside Tiananmen Square in Beijing in June 1989. Since it hit a record high of 6,740,83 three weeks ago, the Hang Seng has dropped by 23 percent. On the other hand, volatility is a

long-established fact of life in the Hong Kong market. "It is the na-ture of Chinese institutional and individual investors to come in and go out of the market very quickly, Said Siewbee Bridges, the head of Asian equities for Daiwa Europe, Certainly it was those local in-

vestors hitting the exits who have led the market rout of recent days. European investors have largely stood pat while there were reports of scattered buying from American pension funds smelling an opportu-

nity, and some selling from Japan. It may be a horrendous ride in the meantime, but it is hard to ignore places whose economies are growing as fast as Hong Kong's," said Bill McBride, international editor at Lipper Analytical Services, a firm that monitors investment funds in New York.

Many analysts point out that not only are Hong Kong's blue-chip possibly the United States.

companies increasing their profits at a nearly 15 percent annual clip but that their share prices are a bargaio. At present levels the aver-age price of stock in Hong Kong's companies is 10 times next year's expected earnings. That is dirt cheap by international standards. At the other extreme, Japanese P/E ratios stand near 30.

What brokers hope is that the steep discount on Hong Kong stocks now fully reflects the political-risk factor. At this point that is little more than a guess. "At the moment, the market has nothing to hang its hopes on except on the outcome of the Legislative Council meeting in February," said James Capel's Mr. Mitchell. That body will either accept or reject the proposals for political reform put to it by the Hong Kong governor. Chris Patten — the proposals that have so outraged Beijing.

Having carned fat returns on their Hong Kong investments in recent years, many foreigners express dis-pleasure with Britain for suddenly rocking the gilded boat. "Despite the breath of fresh air represented by Mr. Patten, my view is that perhaps it should have come 20 years ago rather than now at the very end of their administration," said a senior American banker in London.

Outside the colony, the common assumption is that Hong Kong's ever-pragmatie business leaders will simply rein the new governor in. After all, it is argued that even if he did persist in his efforts to bring a greater degree of democracy to Hong Kong, there could be oo guaranty that it would be sustained after the Union Jack is lowered for the last time, in 1997.

Similarly, oursiders see Beijing as having only limited room to ma-

Nervous investors seeking alternative bomes for their funds face a quandary. In the early autumn, the Hong Kong market benefited from money being pulled out of Japan, but so too did some other Asian markets like Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia. Now many investors think those markets have gotten too. expensive. In the absence of those alternatives, some brokers expect funds flowing out of Hong Kong to. be directed back toward Japan or-

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> NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS Payment of Interim Dividend

A net Interim Dividend of US\$ 0.70 per ordinary share and US\$ 0.80 per preferred share will be paid for the current fiscal year.

Such dividend will be payable at the offices of the paying agents ilsted below, subject to the lews and regulations applicable in each country, starting December 11th, 1992, against surrender of coupon no. 30 of the ordinary share certificates and coupon no 9 of the preferred ahare certificates.

Paying Agents

 in Luxembourg: Banque Internationale à Luxembourg; - In Italy: all the leading banks;

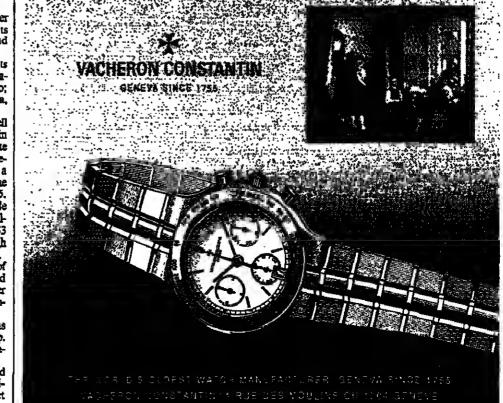
- in Switzerlend: Crédit Suisse, Banca Commerciale Italiana;

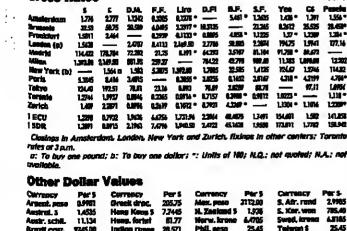
- in France: Lazard Frères & Cie.:

- in the Federal Republic of Germany: Commerzbank; In Great Britain: S.G. Warburg & Co. and Lazard Brothers & Co.;

- in the Netherlands: Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank; - in Belgium: Banque Bruxelles Lambert.

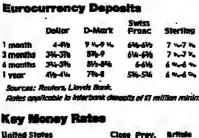
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Dow Jones Averages

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MARKET DIARY

Broad Market Rises As Blue Chips Fade

Bloomberg Business News NEW YORK — Blue-ehip at First Albany Corp.

"The market seems to have stocks fell for a third straight session Thursday on Wall Street,

while the broader market headed higher with help from signs of an economic recovery. The Dow Jooes industrial aver-

age fell 9.72, to 3,276.53, although

N.Y. Stocks

advancing issues on the New York Stock Exchange oumumbered decliners by a small margin.

"A couple of stocks weighed down the Dow industrials," said Dale Tills, manager of institutional equities trading at Charles Schwab Corp. "Meanwhile, the broader market continues to do well."

The Nasdaq index of over-thecounter stocks rose 3.44, to a record 656.35, and the Dow Jones transportation average, benefiting from weak oil prices, gained 9.06, in 1,435.91.

The market shook off a big slide in stocks of oil and retail store vanies. Oil issues, led by Atlantic Richfield and Pennzoil, fell amid iitters about a 14 percent drop in crude prices since early October. Retailers' stocks declined following the release of modest sales gains for November.

Johnson, chief investment strategist

stopped so people can catch their breath and wait for the release of the November employment report." Mr. Johnson said. The government's monthly employment report is due out Friday morning. "Unless the Labor Department reports an increase of more than 100,000 non-farm jobs, I think the report will be perceived as a disappointment by

the stock market," he added. The government released some optimistic economie news Thursday, including a 1.7 percent gain in factory orders in October, the big-

gest rise in four months. NationsBank was the most-active issue on the New York Stock Exchange, unchanged at 50½. More than 8.6 percent of its shares changed hands as brokerage firms executed trades related to the bank's upcoming dividend payment.

Glaxo Holdings was second, up 21/2 to 26% on reports it received government approval for a new migraine drug.

Advanced Micro Devices was

third, slumping 1½ to 16½. Intel said Wednesday a California judge ruled that AMD could not use the computer language in Intel's mi-croprocessors in its versions of In-tel chips. Intel was up 4 to 771/4 in "People are starting to worry about profits again," said Hugh

Dollar Awaits Jobs Data As ERM Calms Down

NEW YORK - The dollar drifted higher on Thursday in trading subdued by the approach of the key U.S. employment report for

The dollar closed nearly a pfennig higher, at 1.5830 Deutsche marks, compared with 1.5740 DM at Wednesday's close.

"The dollar's spent oearly all week pegged at this 1.58 level and

Foreign Exchange

the jobs report is the best chance it has of breaking free," said a head of foreign exchange at a U.S. bank in London. The unemployment report is to be released Friday.

The dollar also moved up to 124.67 yen from 124.42, to 1.4135 Swiss francs from 1.3965 and to 5.3875 French francs from 5.3655. The pound, bolstered by the return of calm to the European exchangerate mechanism, rose on the cross ngainst the dollar, too, to \$1.5640

The Freneb frane enjoyed a respite from recent pressure, and aispeculators also retreated from at-tacking weaker currencies in the rate mechanism after France and

Germany made elear they were de-termined to see the currency grid The pound, forced out of the grid along with the lira in September, proved the surprise choice for trad-

ors with lingering doubts about the long-term stability of the ERM.

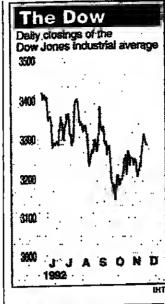
The British currency basked in a oew status as a safe haven, climbing 4 pfennig to 2.4758 DM in late European trading.

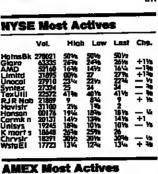
The French frane was comfortably around the 3.40 level to the mark for most of the day, buoyed by evidence that recession in Germany might lead to a cut in interest rates there sooner rather than later. What action did occur on the dollar Thursday was due to promising economic data from the United States that contrasted markedly with the signs of growing recession

in Germany.

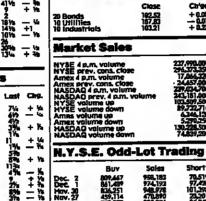
The U.S. government reported that factory orders had risen 1.7 percent in October and that weekly obless claims had declined by 12,000.

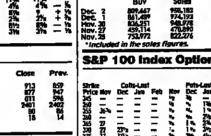
As for the German economy, Thursday's story was dismal data on gross domestic product, unem-ployment and output. The net effect was to reignite rate cut hopes that investors had shelved earlier in the week.

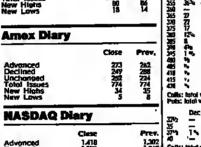




NYSE Diary







S&P 100 Index Options Feb -34) 74) 16%

Oil Prices Lose More Ground

NEW YORK — Oil prices dropped to a nine-month low Thursday, as traders continued to drop their bids for crude based on industry and government figures showing a surge in U.S. oil inventories, brokers said. New York's January light sweet crude contract settled down 37 cents

per barrel at \$19.08 a barrel. Figures from the American Petroleum Institute and the U.S. Departnt of Energy confirmed that the U.S. supply of crude oil, gasoline and

distillate fuel grew during the week ended Nov. 27.

OPEC has not convinced traders that its newly set output ceiling can arrest the worldwide decline in oil prices, analysts said.

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U.S. Outlook Continues to Brighten

NEW YORK (Combined Dispatches) - More signs of a slowly improving U.S. economy were reported Thursday in manufacturing and the labor market. Orders to factories rose 1.7 percent io October, the largest gain sioce Juoe, and new unemployment claims declined 12,000 in the week ended Nov. 21.

The national level of anemployment claims totaled 362,000 and has beeo trending downward for two months from the recession level of 400,000. That led Edward Yardeni of C.J. Lawrence to observe. "Managers have to ask whether they continue productivity gains by cutting staff,

or do they quit laying off workers, or perhaps even hire more.

The factory-orders figure was boosted by a monthly increase of almost 20 percent for transportation equipment, a volatile sector including automobiles and jet aircraft. Excluding transportation, factory orders decreased 0.6 percent, after rising 2.2 percent in September. The skowly improving trend was also distorted by defense orders, which shot up 41.3 improving trend was also distorted by defense orders, which shot up 41.3 improving trend was also distorted by defense orders, which shot up 41.3 improving trend was also distorted by defense orders.

percent io October after dropping 20 percent the month before.

Meanwhile, the largest U.S. retailers Thursday reported modest sales gains in November, with department and specialty stores doing as well or better than discounters in a sign consumer confidence may be reviving.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the largest U.S. retailer, said its November sales immed 22 percent force and included the sales may be reviving. jumped 23 percent from year-earlier levels. Sears said its sales rose 5.9, and Kmart Corp., reported its sales increased 6.5 percent. The specialty-store giants Gap Inc. and Limited Inc. posted double-digit gains. (IHT. 4P)

Martin Marietta, Pratt in Engine Deal

WASHINGTON (WP) - Martin Marietta Corp. has reached an initial agreement with Pratt & Whitney to manufacture jet-engine components, a deal that could be worth \$1 billion over 10 years.

The deal could be a major blow to Rohr Inc., the California-based company that for decades has dominated the \$2 billion-a-year business of manufacturing thrust reversers, sections of jet engines used to slow planes as they land on runways, and nacelles, which are jet engine casings.

lo this latest agreement, Pratt & Whitney chose Martin Marietta to build thrust reversers and nacelles for its PW-4000 engine, used in wide-body Airbus Industrie and McDonnell Douglas Corp. jets.

Westinghouse Adopts Bylaw Changes PITTSBURGH (UPI) — Westinghouse Electric Corp. said Thursday that its board had unanimously adopted a series of bylaw changes

proposed by management. Under the measures, the board established a new nominating and governance committee composed of only independent outside directors.

Also, after their current terms expire, all directors will be elected on an

In addition, the shareholder-rights plan, commonly referred to as a poison pill," has been rescinded.

The board also formally expressed its continuing confidence in Chairman Paul E. Lego to successfully implement the froancial and strategie plan for the troubled company.

For the Record

Philip Morris Cos. said it would buy a 7.9 percent interest in Formation Economico Mexicano SA, Mexico's leading beverage company, from Ciocorp International Holdings Inc.; terms were not disclosed. (Reuters) Sandoz Pharmacenticals Corp. agreed to pay Scripps Research Institute more than \$300 million over a decade in exchange for first rights to drug discoveries by the center's scientists. The National Association of Securities Dealers will spend \$100 million to upgrade its Nasdaq computerized trading system through 1997.

Morrison Knodsen Corp. said it received a \$100 million contract to design and make 50 new-generation Viewliner cars for Amtrak. (Reuters) TWA has won an extension of its exclusive right to file a reorganization plan. U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Helen S. Balick granted the extension through Jan. 12 after lawyers for TWA and its unsecured creditors told ber negotiations on the plan were progressing.

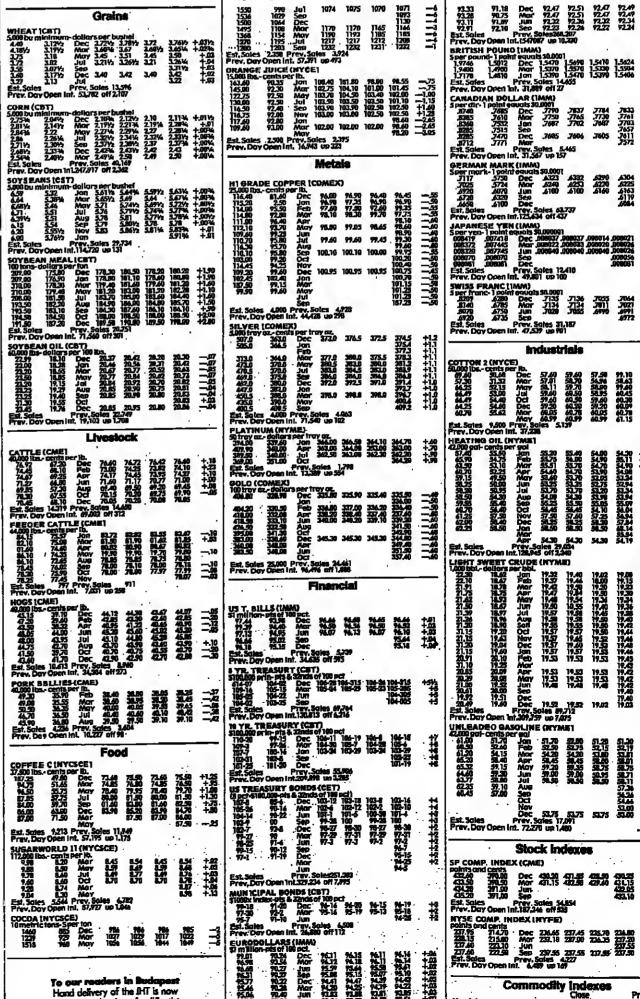
(AP)

U.S. FUTURES

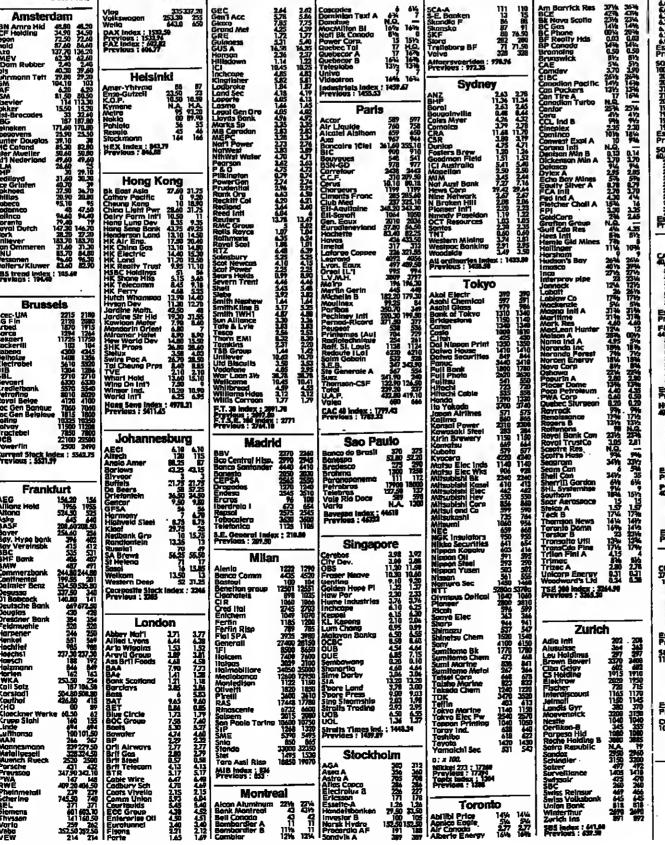
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WORLD STOCK MARKETS



German Economy Shrinks

Compiled by Our Stuff From Dispatches BONN - Pressured by the budget deficit and battered by high interest rates, the economy in Western Germany contracted 0.5 percent in the third quarter, as factory output fell and unemployment grew.

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"The figures are a clear indication that we are in a recession, and it will last for quite some time," said Jochen Schober, economist at Helaba Bank. Meanwhile, the Economy Ministry said industrial output in the west of the country fell a seasonally adjusted 2 percent in October from September and 3.6 percent from a year earlier. The biggest falls were a 3.5 percent decline in mining and 2.5 percent in manufacturing.

In Nuremberg, the Labor Office said unemployment in the west rose to 6.1 percent of the work force in November from 6 percent in October. Gross domestic product in the former West Germany fell 0.5 percent in the third quarter from

the second but rose I percent from the third

QANTAS:

(\$273.2 million).

Australian dollars.

Suitors in Duel

400 million Australian dollars

The merger, combined with the

end of a ban preventing Qantas from carrying passengers within Australia, was approved by the government to make the enlarged

carrier more attractive to investors.

ties Ptc. in Singapore estimated

Qantas was worth about 2.9 billion

With net cash reserves of more

than 1.8 billion Singapore dollars (\$1.10 billion), SIA has more than

enough to buy a 20 percent stake in Qantas for 580 million Australian

dollars and could afford to extend

There are doubts that British

Airways, which is to pay \$750 mil-

lion for its 44 percent stake in USAir, can match SIA's financial

its bid to take up a 25 percent

In a recent study, Crosby Securi-

quarter of 1991. Measured by gross national prodnct, which includes overseas holdings, the economy contracted 1.5 percent quarter-to-quarter and was the same size as a year earlier.

Economics Minister Jürgen Möllemann said the figures were a warning Germany had to reduce its deficit and curb wage increases to create scope for lower interest rates.

Mr. Möllemann there was growth in services but it could not offset the manufacturing decline. "By the classic definition, Germany is now entering a small recession," said Brian Wilkinson, economic analyst at MAP Securities in London. The

question is whether the second half of 1993 will see a

start of a recovery led by the United States." The weak economy and rising unemployment have convinced imions to cut wage demands. The IG Metall mion, representing 125,000 steel workers, agreed to a 3.1 percent raise from Feb. 1 for 10 months, employers said Thursday. "It is very en-couraging from the Bundesbank point of view," said Mr. Wilkinson of MAP. (Reuters, Bloomberg, UPI)

SOLIDARITY: Kohl Struggles

(Continued from first finance page) one in Hungary, also cited cheaper (Continued from first finance page)

labor as a motivation.

West German industry, another sees little incentive in voluntarily increasing investments in the East. "If unions go back to justifiable wage demands, that's because of their interest in saving jobs, and therefore doesn't deserve a reaction," Tyll Necker, chairman of the

The German insurance sector, in two years. fact, on Wednesday reached agree-ment on an average 4.2 percent wage rise for 1993 versus a 6.5 percent gain this year. The agreement was the kind of wage restraint the Bundesbank has demanded as a precondition for lower interest rates, but economists said the result was a factor of the weak economy not any special patriotism, and

Erke, an economist at Schröder Münchmeyer Hengst, told Reuters. "But it gives a clear indication of the general trend. The balance of potential partner in the pact, also power has tipped in favor of the employers."

Steel workers also settled for a moderate pay deal of 3.3 percent, down from about 6.5 percent last year. An economic slowdown and nising unemployment have forced unions to change their strategy af-Federation of German Industry, ter winning pay rises of around twice the inflation rate over the last

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16,200 Jobs To Go at U.K. Post Office Pillsbury's Slide Hurts Grand Met

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches LONDON - The British Post Office said Thursday it would shed 16,200 jobs over the next five years to increase efficiency.

Bill Cockburn, the chief executive, said the cuts would be achieved through attrition, not layoffs. "Our objective is to achieve this as painlessly as possible," he said. The plan is designed to ensure that everyone who wants to remaio working for Royal Mail will

be able to do so."
The Post Office said 15,000 jobs would go at its Royal Mail letters division in London over the next five years and 1,200 at its Post Office Counters Ltd. division over

The Post Office currently employs about 250,000 people. The staff cut is part of the Post Office's "drive for even greater effi-ciency," a statement said. The ultimate goal is to become the gateway for handling Europe's mail, with Royal Mail the first choice carrier." The announcement was the lat-

est in a series of job cuts announced

Commerzbank Profit Up

that by telling investors not to count on a richer dividend. The bank said total operating profit - interest and commission

FRANKFURT - Commerzbank AG reported Thursday a strong

increase in profit or the first 10 months of the year, but tempered

income less expenses, plus trading profit on the bank's own account — rose 13.3 percent in the period compared with a year earlier, to 1.67 billion Deutsche marks (\$1.02 billion).

"Despite the steep profit rise we must ask our shareholders not to pin their hopes too high," the bank's chief executive, Martin Kohlhaussen, said, adding, "maintaining the dividend is surely quite an achievement." Commerzbank paid out 10 DM a share in 1991.

Mr. Kohlhaussen also said he expected total operating profit to exceed 2 billion DM in 1992 as a whole.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Grand Metropoli- division, a part of Pillsbury. tan PLC on Thursday reported a 5.1 percent fall in annual profit, saying bumper vegetable crops and recession had squeezed earnings at its lems at Green Giant, weak demand U.S. based Pillsbury food business. and a price war in the sector.

Group pretax profit for the year ended Sept. 30 fell to £902 million (\$1.4 billion), from £950 million, while sales fell 9.6 percent, to £7.91 billion from £8.75 billion. The British food and drinks group

cautioned that mid-1993 was the earliest it could expect any major benefits from an economic recovery. "At present, evidence of early economic recovery is sparse, although we are encouraged by cur-rent reports from the U.S. and we expect overall market improvement

progressively through 1993," said the chairman, Sir Allen Sheppard. "It may be the second half before we see any major benefit to our businesses, but we believe the worst is behind us in North American food and our other businesses con-

tinue on track," he added. Grand Met said it was hit by by major British employers in re-cent months. (Reuters, Bloomberg) ed States, which led to a slide in

performance from the Green Giant

Profit at the foods division fell 16 percent from a year earlier, to £210 million, pulled down by the prob-

International Distillers & Vintners accounted for more than half the group's operating profit, with £509 million in operating profit, up 12 percent. Burger King profit rose 9 per-cent, to £137 million, owing mainly

to the opening of several new branches, but the U.S. opticians chain Pearle posted a loss of £18 million, up from £11 million.

Grand Met predicted in late August that its profit would be little changed from last year and acknowledged Thursday that the results were "below our original expectations."

The results were below analysts' expectations as well, and despite a dividend increase to 12.3 pence per share from 11.35 pence, the shares fell. On the London Stock Exchange, Grand Met shares closed 15 pence lower at 425 pence. (Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)

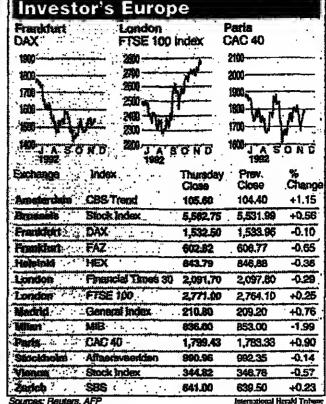
Hanson Profit Up Despite Recession

Bloomberg Business News LONDON - Hanson PLC said Thursday that its profit rose 9.2 percent in its fourth quarter, de-

spite the recession. Hanson's profit for the July-Sep-tember quarter totaled £381 million

(\$568 million). For the full year, however, Hanson's earnings fell 3.6 percent, to £1.29 billion. They were still better than expected.

Chairman Lord Hanson said the company would continue to look for acquisition opportunities.



Very briefly:

 DAF NV said its reorganization was oot having enough effect, and the Dutch truckmaker plans "an accelerated far-reaching restructuring and a reduction of personnel that will affect all layers of the organization." · Volvo AB said its U.S. car sales in November rose 27.3 percent. compared with November 1991, to 5,673.

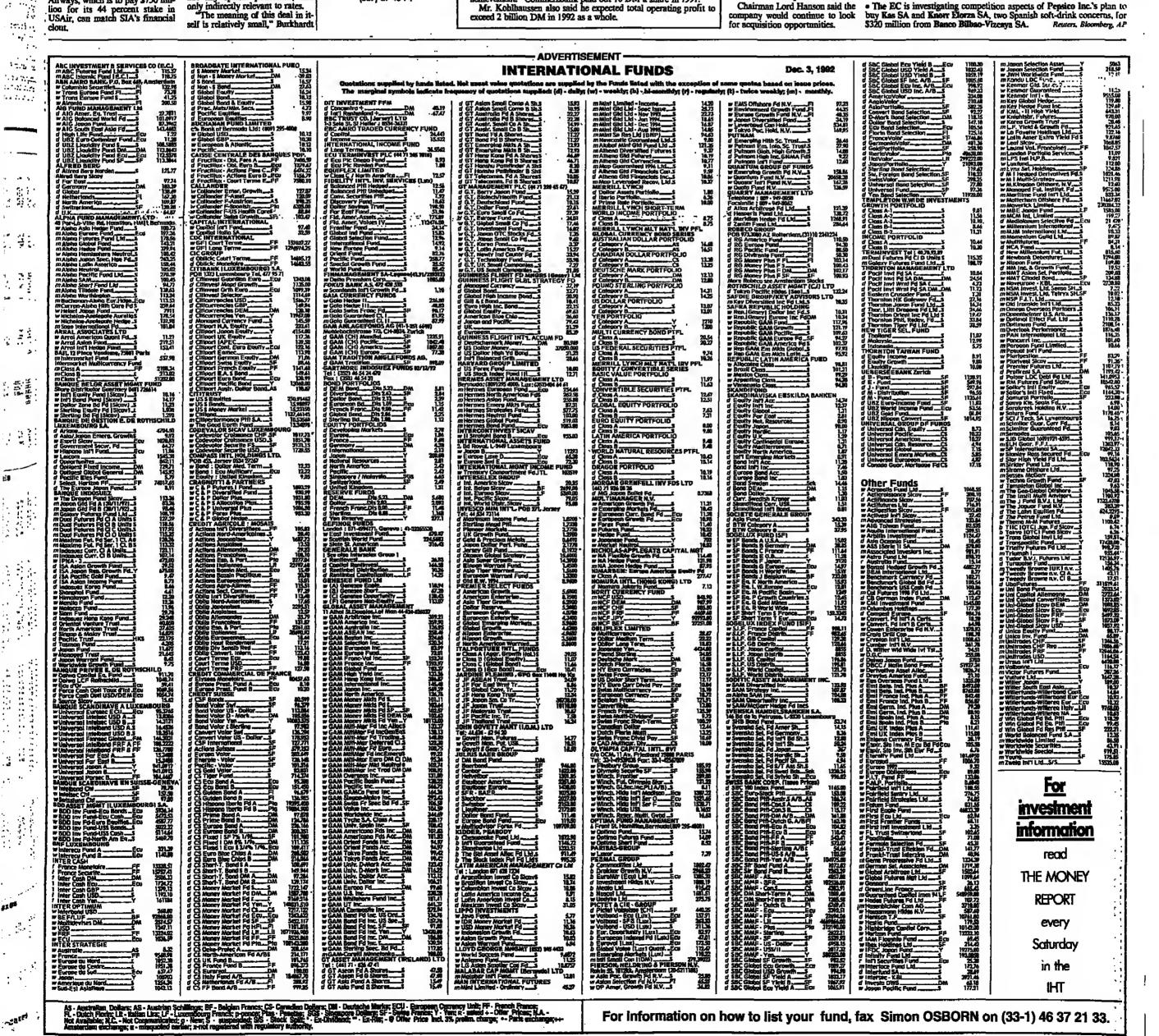
· General Electric Co.-Marconi Ltd. will buy Philips U.K.'s Infrared Defense Components husiness; the price was not revealed.

• Smith New Court PLC said pretax profit for the six mooths ended Oct. 30 fell 11.9 percent, to £6.7 million (\$10.4 million); it cited "volstile markets caused by uncertainty surrounding the Maastricht treaty and the effects of prolonged recession."

• Italtel SpA, the telephone switching station and transmission manufacturer of Italy's state-owned Stet SpA, plans to cut 1,700 jobs in 1993. · ABB Asea Brown Boveri AG said the state cabinet of Western Australia authorized its Energy Commission to proceed with talks over the building and operation of a \$1.5 billion coal-fired power station.

The EC is investigating competition aspects of Pepsico Inc.'s plan to buy Kas SA and Knorr Elorza SA, two Spanish soft-drink concerns, for \$320 million from Banco Bilbao-Vizcaya SA.

Reuters, Bloomberg, AP



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Taiwan Leaders Find Signs of Strengthening Ties With Washington

TAIPEI - Government and academic figures here said the visit to Taiwan by Trade Representative Carla A. Hills of the United States that ended Thursday was a sign of strengthening ties with Washington.

Mrs. Hills made the first visit to Taiwan by a cabinet-level U.S. official in 13 years. Although her trip was ostensibly to pressure Taiwan to open its markets, government officials said her meetings with President Lee Teng-hui and Foreign Minister Frederick Chien

A U.S. legislator, Senator Frank H. Murkowski, Republican of Alaska, said here Wednesday that Mrs. Hills's meeting with Mr. Lee was a historic beginning, an ice-breaking move."

Taiwan officials said they expected more formal links with the United States after Mrs. Hills's visit, saying the U.S. sale of 150 fighter jets and ammunition worth \$5.8 billion to the island was an encouraging sign for Taipei. Another gesture indicating U.S. interest in stronger ties is its support of Taiwan's effort to join the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

A foreign ministry official said that over the past 18 months, Taiwan's foreign minister had been allowed to make four quiet visits to the United States, something unprecedented since the severance

Thomas Lee, dean of Tamkang University's Graduate Institute of American Studies, said there were economic and political reasons for the United States to move closer to Taiwan. It would be "impossible" for the United States to keep its ban on cabinet-level visits if it wants a share in Taiwan's massive infrastructure program, Mr. Lee said.

"Taiwan's economic power is something that countries like the realistic United States have been unable to overlook, and sending cabinet officials here is natural," said Professor Lin Shan-tien of Netional Taiwan University.

Mrs. Hills's visit angered China, which maintains formal diplomatic

ties with Washington and claims Taiwan for itself.

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Western Style Adds Allure To NTT Bond

TOKYO—Nippon Telegraph & Telephooe Corp. sold a bond Thursday under a system relatively new to Japan, and investors are

snapping it up, bond traders said. The issue is the second NTT bond sold under a Western-style pricing system that more accurately mirrors market conditions than the traditional Japanese system. NTT offered 80 billioo yen

(\$643.3 million) in seven-year bonds with a coupon of 5 percent, a spokesman said. The offering price was 99.50 for each 100.00 yen of face value, for a yield of 5.085 percent.

The yield is roughly half a per-centage point more than the return on similar Japanese government bonds, and about 30 basis points higher than other corporate issues. luring many investors into the market, traders said.

Traditionally, domestic bonds were priced high and then discounted as underwriters sold them. That hindered trading in the sec-ondary market because investors had little idea of who paid what when the bond was first sold.

The method used to sell the NTT bonds, widely used in the West, provides better prices because investors are polled before the price is set. Members of the underwriting members then agree to maintain the price for a set period of time.

China Calls Firms to Account

World Norms Are Imposed on State Sector

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispensive public accountants, all of whom BEIJING — The Chinese government announced Thursday that retraining, Mr. Liu said. it would adopt international aceigners a clearer picture of China's and almost 9 million other poorly

opaque corporate finances. date that enterprises use such basic tools as balance sheets, income statements and cash-flow state take years to train adequate numbers of malified CPAs saving the ments, will eventually give foreign investors the "actual financial position of their Chinese partners," Finance Minister Liu Zhongli said.

Now, Chinese companies stress productivity and assets, not profits, in their reports and promotional of corporate secrecy, has made foreign investors slow to warm to Chi- control, he added. na's infant stock markets.

Foreign investors often complain laws, if successful, will add subthat they have no basis on which to judge if a Chinese company is financially sound, and tell horror stories of mismanagement and missing or growth," he said. misappropriated funds.

Mr. Liu said the new rules would give state-run enterprises, more than one-third of which run at a loss, greater freedom to control their own finances.

"The existing practice put overelaborated and too strict control on the uses of funds and settlement of accounts," he said.

China has a mere 13,000 certified

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But the new laws, scheduled to counting standards for state-run go into trial operation on July 1, businesses in an effort to give for 1993, will be difficult for the CPAs

trained financial administration The new regulations, which manand enforce the regulations. bers of qualified CPAs, saying the

Finance Ministry planned to have 100,000 by the year 2000. "Of course it is an important task for us to have a whole army of qualified accountants — this is our great task," Mr. Liu said. The obmaterials. This, plus a a high level ject of the reform is to remove accountants from central government

The implementation of the new

The government hopes to rid it-self of sloppy and nonstandardized accounting practices as part of a

agement, which has let the state-run enterprises run up huge debts and created piles of unwanted goods. Mr. Liu said the new rules made

five major changes. Regulations that previously allowed different accounting methods for different parts of the country, different kinds of enterprises and different economic sectors

would all be standardized. For the first time, regulations will formally recognize the concept of capital and registered capital of an organization.

Enterprises will be able to choose their own method for depreciating fixed assets on the books, according to their own situations.

The present system of total-cost accounting will he replaced by what Mr. Liu called the manufacturingcost method, separating nonmanu-facturing administrative costs clearly in the books.

be split into three parts: the balance sheet, an income statement and a statement of changes in the financial

(UPI, Reuters, Bloomberg)

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Straits Times

Very briefly:

Investor's Asia

Hong Kong Hang Seng

Perusahaan Otomobii Nasional Bhd., or Proton, the Malaysian state-cootrolled carmaker, said pretax profit for the six months to Sept. 30 fell 36 percent to 130.46 million ringgit (\$51.4 million).

 SBCI Finance Asia, a unit of Swiss Bank Corp., was reprimanded by Hong Kong's Securities and Futures Commission for handling a private share sale by Bank of East Asia Ltd. at the end of October, right after the bank had said it was not planning any stock placement.

China postponed the launch of an Australian telecommunications satellite, Optus B-2, after its maker. Hughes Alreraft Corp., asked for a delay to replace some components, Xinhua news agency said.

 The Japan Securities Dealers Association will hold nationwide qualification exams for brokerage employees for the first time to help prevent the excessive sales activities blamed for stock-trading scandals last year. Vifon Ace-Cook Co., a Vietnam-Japan joint venture in Ho Chi Minh City, will start making instant noodles in August 1994 for export to neighboring and East European countries.

 Westpac Banking Corp. will appoint Peter Ritchie, chairman and managing director of McDonald's Australia, to its board; he is the first director appointed after a series of resignations over the past two months that followed a string of financial disasters at the bank.

Astra's White Knight Rides a Political Horse

JAKARTA - Reports that a timber tycoon plans to take over Indonesia's PT Astra International are generally seen as bad news that would give the conglomerate an unwelcome political tinge. brokers said on Thursday.

The Soeryadjaya family is being forced to sell control in Astra, whose main busioess is vehicle assembly, to bail out another family business, the Summa Group, which is thought to have dehts of at least \$600 million A Jakarta newspaper on Wednesday said the Soeryadjayas, who

own around 60 percent of Astra, had decided to sell a controlling stake to PT Barito Pacific, a timber company headed by Prayogo Pangestu. Mr. Prayogo is known to be very close to President Suharto and is involved in a oumber of ventures with members of the Suharto family. Several brokers said that if Mr. Prayogo went ahead with the purchase it would almost certaioly be seen as a front for ownership

"We're bearish if it's true," one foreign broker said. Under such a oew owner, Astra "will not have the Soeryadjaya quality but will be owned by people who know nothing about the car industry," he said. Astra is widely considered one of the best-run companies in Indonesia, where many of the major concerns have risen to the top

with the help of strong political connections.

Both Astra and Barito officials declined comment but Mr. Prayogo was quoted as sayiog io Thursday's edition of the Kompas daily that the family head, William Soeryadjaya, had asked him to help out. He said he was ready to do so. Kompas quoted sources as saying Mr. Prayogo would buy 108 million shares, worth about \$450 million at current prices.

The immediate impact of the reports on Astra's stock price was

muted and it traded unchanged at 8,575 rupish (\$4.15) a share.

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3 Firms Get Malaysia Phone Contract

KUALA LUMPUR — Nokia Oy of Finland, Alcatel Alsthom of France and Japan's Fujitsu Ltd. have won contracts as part of a 2 hillion ringgit (\$787 million) telephone-switching deal, Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Thursday.

Mr. Anwar said the contracts to install digital exchange lines were awarded by state-controlled Telekom Malaysia Bhd. after the three companies met conditions imposed by authorities.

The companies had been asked to undergo testing of their equipment to ensure their products complied with local telecommunications specifications. News reports had said the three failed to comply with the requirements within a six-month deadline outlined in letters of intent signed in March. They were then given six more months to comply. (Reuters, AFP)

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REPUBLIC OF LEBANON REHABILITATION OF THE POWER SECTOR PRE QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS

For the rehabilitation of power, transmission and distribution facilities throughout Lebanon, the Republic of Lebanon has received a joint US\$ 110 million loan from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, US\$ 30 million equivalent from the Italian Government, and has applied for a US\$ 175 million from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), part of which will be applied towards the costs of rehabilitation. Negotiations are underway with other donors to secure additional funding.

It is intended that the proceeds of the above loans will be applied to payments to prequalified contractors under contracts to be awarded for the following work packages:

- overhaul, repair and retrofitting of boilers, steam turbines and auxiliaries of the power stations of Zouk (3 x 140 MW and 1 x 170 MW), and Jieh $(2 \times 60 \text{ MW} \text{ and } 3 \times 69 \text{ MW});$
- overhaul repair and retrofitting of six gas turbines at Zouk (4 x 30 MW and 2 x 20 MW);
- reconstruction, repair and retrofitting of 66kv/33kv/11kv substations (about 30);
- reconstruction of 150 kV and 66 kV overhead lines and underground

reconstruction, repair and retrofitting of distribution networks (33 kV, 11kV and 0.4 kV lines substations) and consumer connections. The works will be executed under the supervision of consultants appointed

by Electricite du Liban/CDR under donors guidelines. Due to the critical and urgent nature of the work packages the times

allowed for bid preparation and, later, implementation at the works will be kept to a minimum. Therefore only contractors who are capable of working under tight schedules and controls need apply for prequalification and such ability will be expected to be demonstrated during the prequalification exercise. Reasons for not prequalifying any firm or consortia need not be given and no costs associated in prequalifying will be reimbursed. Invitations for bidding will only be sent to firms or consortia which are prequalified.

The Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR) invites contracting forum or consortia interested in bidding for all of the packages, to obtain prequalification documents from the CDR, Beirut - Lebanon that will be available by December 3, 1992. Deadlines for submission of prequalification bids with all supporting material at the CDR offices in Beirut, Lebanon is 12:00 noon on December 21 1992.

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Agassi and Hlasek Will Open **Battle for Davis Cup Title**

"FORT WORTH, Texas - An- court." dre Agassi's was the first name se-

feeted Thursday, which will pit him against Jakoh Hlasek in the opening match Friday of the Davis Cup final hetween the United States arīd Switzerland.

Top-ranked Jim Courier will play Marc Rosset in the first day's other singles match. The best-offive final will end on Sunday.

On Saturday, Pete Sampras and John McEnroe will face Hlasek and Rosset in doubles, and on Sunday, it will be Courier playing against Hlasek and Agassi taking on Ros-

. The matches will be played on a hard Plexi-Court surface at the Tarrant County Convention Cen-

Hlasek predicted a victory in Switzerland's first Davis Cup final. The Americans said they were coo-

fident but not quite that bold. "You can't mistake that confi-dence for overconfidence," Agassi said. "We understand the task that's ahead of us."

"It does not matter what Agassi thinks about the match," responded the Swiss team's captain, Tim Sturdza. "It doesn't matter what

With McEnroe's marital probweek, it may be up to Agassi to provide leadership for the U.S.

McEnroe practiced in a closed session Wednesday. On Tuesday, he skipped a news conference after reports surfaced that his marriage to the actress Tatum O'Neal is in

The U.S. team's captain, Tom Gorman, said McEnroe intends to play in the final. But, Gorman said, "He prefers oot to be in a situation where he has to answer any questions of a personal nature."

MeEnroe, 33, is 41-8 in Davis Cup play, Agassi is 18-4. Courier is only 2-4 and Sampras just 3-3. Agassi said he is still riding the high from winning Wimhledon with a thrilling five-set victory over

Goran Ivanisevic last June for his first Grand Slam title.

"The hangover from the celebration is still with me," he said. "Tve got to believe that will be with me

the rest of my life.

The high of being on cloud oine has died down, but the hump Sturdza. "It doesn't matter what you get over winning something you see in your dream. The point is like that is hopefully going to help

what is going to happen on the me be the best ooe day," Agassi

"Wimhledon to me, I'll always lems hitting the headlines this feel a difference in my game, because it was such an ubstacle, such a turning point."

Rosset won the singles gold med-al at the Barcelooa Olympics, where he defeated, in order, topseeded Courier, hometown favorite Emilio Sánchez, Ivanisevic and Jordi Arrese.

Rosset said beating Courier in Spain gave his career and confi-

"It's really important because I know that if 1 play him again, I know that I can beat him again," Rosset said.

Agassi hrings a nine-match win-ning streak in Davis Cup play into the final.

"I think I play well in the Davis Cup for ooe main reasoo," Agassi said. "There are four days of good practice. I've never really had that kind of apportunity to play with such great players for prepa-

"Four days with guys like that and you're at the top of your game. I'm fortunate to say that when I'm at the top of my game, I don't lose



A Russian Night Ends With Red Lights All About

Gary Roberts, giving John Leblano an unwanted boost from behind, scored 15 seconds after teammate Joel Otto in the third period to give Calgary a 3-3 tie with visiting Winnipeg and second place in the Smythe Division. The Jets got all their scoring from two Russian rookies, with two goals by Alexei Zhansnov and one by Evgeni Davydov. In New York, Sergei Nemchinov's breakaway goal midway through the third period broke a tie as the Rangers beat Detroit, 5-3, to end their losing streak in Madison Square Garden at four games, the longest in nine

Yanks And Bonds A Sixth Year Apart

Yankees seemed confused Thurs-

Joe Molloy, contradicted earlier statements by the general manager, Gene Michael, by insisting that the clah had not withdrawn its contract offer to the outfielder.

"Contrary to reports, we did oot take the offer off the table," Molloy said. "The offer was turned down by Barry's people after they had insisted we give an additional year to the original deal offered."

Earlier, Michael said the Yankees had withdrawn the offer to Bonds, just as they had previously with pitchers David Cone, Doug Drabek and Jose Guzman.

Bonds's agent, Dennis Gilbert, know what's going to happen next.
I'm sure we'll talk."

ion for five years, but Gilbert reportedly was pushing for a six-year

leal worth about \$42 million. Along with Bonds, the National cague's most valuable player, the Yankees are actively pursuing Greg Maddux, the NL's Cy Young Award winner.

Michael spoke earlier with Maddux and his agent, Scott Boras, in Las Vergas. The Yankees' offer was said to be worth more than \$30

The Yankees, the Atlanta Braves day about who was doing what in the Los Angeles Dodgers fig-the pursuit of Barry Bonds, but it ured to be the teams most intereststill appeared that they were the only team in serious cootention to land this season's best free agent.

The Yankees' general partner,

Davis to a \$1 million, one-year

> The Braves' president, Stan Kas-ten, said Tuesday he didn't believe his team would be able to meet Bonds's price, although the general manager, John Schuerholz, said that "we're still talking,"

On the Maddux froot, Boras said that no deal was expected until

"We're talking with everybody and trying to get that finalized in the next few days." Boras said. The Seattle Mariners landed pitcher Chris Bosio and the Detroit

Bosio said he will sign a fouryear contract with the Mariners with an option for 1997, a package The Yankers were said to have said to be worth slightly more than page offered Bonds about \$35 milJose Guzman's \$14.35 million deal

> Bosin, 29, was 16-6 with a 3.62 ERA last seasoo for the Milwaukee Brewers and set a team record with

Trammell, 34, agreed to stay with the Tigers for \$1.5 million and performance bonuses. The Tigers get a \$2.4 million option for 1994, which would become guaranteed if

The Associated Press would make Maddux the highest-NEW YORK — The New York paid pitcher in baseball.

Tigets re-signed shortstop Alan Trammell on Wednesday.

with the Chicago Cubs.

10 straight victories.

he plays regularly next season. He has been hampered by injumillioo over five years, which ries the past several seasons.

SIDELINES

Snowstorm May Halt Downhill Race

VAL D'ISERE, France (UPI) — A snowstorm that struck the French Alps on Thursday morning forced organizers to call off the final training run for the opening downhill race of the men's World ski Cup season. Friday's downhill, the first speed event of the 1992-93 season, appeared to be endangered by weather reports predicting that the snow would continue falling. A final decision on whether to race would be taken Friday morning, officials said,

Organizers were considering a proposal to switch a super-giant slalom from Saturday to Friday, with the high-profile downhill moved to Saturday and the season's second slalom retained for Sunday.

Byrd Undergoes 7-Hour Operation NEW YORK (NYT) — The New York Jets' defensive end, Dennis Byrd, was in stable and in satisfactory condition Thursday after a team of

six surgeons, in a seven-hour operation, successfully stabilized the fractured fifth cervical vertebra in his neck. But it could be as long as two

years before Byrd will know if he will regain the use of his paralyzed legs, according to Elliott Hershman, the team's orthopedist.

Hershman said that three metal plates — one in the front of the vertebra and two on the sides, affixed by a total of nine steel and thanium screws — were used Wednesday to hold the fractured vertebra in place. He described the damage to the vertebra as "extensive."

Byrd is being given what Hershman called an experimental drug, Sygen or GM-1 ganglioside, that doctors hope will help heal the spinal cord. Sygen has not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in the United States, but it is being used on Byrd with his permission.

Faldo Leading Chase for \$1 Million SUN CITY, South Africa (AP) - British Open champion Nick Faldo,

with three birdies on the back-nine, shot 3-under-par 69 Thursday for a one-stroke lead after first-round of the Million Dollar Challenge golf

South Africans Ernie Els and David Frost were tied for second, while Nick Price, the U.S. PGA winner, and José-Maria Olazábal of Spain shot even par. John Cook of the United States and defending champion Bernhard Langer of Germany were another shot back; Masters champion Fred Couples and Australian Craig Parry finished at 74, a shot ahead of Ian Woosnam of Wales.

■ Scotland's Colin Montgomerie and Australian rookie Robert Allenhy shot 6-under-par 66s to share the first-round lead in the Johnnie Walker Classic in Melbourne, Australia.

For the Record

Heike Henkel, who woo the Olympic gold medal in the women's high jump, and Dieter Baumann, who won the 5,000-meter gold, were elected Thursday as Germany's athletes of the year.

(AP)

SCOREBOARD

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WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS .

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BASKETBALL

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MIDWEST
Illinois St. RZ. Lewis 69
Minesata 108. SU-Edwardsville 6
St. Louis 84. Sippery Rock 42
SOUTHWEST
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FAR WEST
Stanford 92. Pusel Sound 42
Utch 51: 81. Membors Tech 49
Washington 51, 87, 8YU-Howell 60

10-237-627; How Cor 19-17-5-2 Continson 19-23 7-5-27 Frow-kins 5-13 3-4 L Poyne 8-13 9-9 7, Rebounds-Son Antonio 63 | Robinson 311, Philodelphio 46 (Weatherspoon 141, Analsts-Son Antonio 30 (Del Negro 91, Philodelphio 29 (Grant 4), Chicago 22 19 19 26— 96 Boston 29 22 34 23—W1 LAPCHICK MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT SI. John's 90, long 76 Third Piece

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Perflord 21 39 25 55-112
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Porter 8-13 5-6 21, Rotelason 12-17 7-12 31;
Schrempf 8-18 10-13 26, Millier 7-19 1-11 12 Rebounds—Portland 53 (B.Williams 91, Indiana

Major College Scores

EAST
Cont. Connecticut St. E2. Queens Col
Georgetown 88. St. Lea 49
La Selle 59, Philo. Tectille 53
Pittsburgh 89, St. Frencis, Pa. 75
SOUTH
Citodel 59, Charleston Southern 54
Clenson 93, Liberty 68
Davidson 98, St. Joseph's, Maine 78
E. Kentucky 81, N. Kentucky 71
Florida 54, 67, Mossochusatis, 64
Kentucky 81, N. Kentucky 51, Wright 51, 65

NEW JERSEY—Activated Dan O'Sullivan NEW JERSEY—Activated Dan O'Sullivan. center, from injured list. Pul Jayson Williams, emter-forward, on injured list. PHILADELPHIA—Activated Charles Shackleford, center, from injured list. Pul Ec-dide Lee Wilkins, center, on injured list. PMDENIX—Put Kevin Johnson, guard, on injured list. Signed Alex Shirrins, forward, SACRAMENTO—Wolved Ston Kimbrough, guard, Signed Rod Highins, forward, Aersed to forms with Kurl Rombis, forward.

Kennedy 171, Yzerman (19) 2; Graves (9), Kocur 131, Amente (121, Nemchinov 17), Tur-cotte (131, Shotson good—Detroit (on Richter)

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

FLORIDA—Agreed to minor league con-rocts with chuck jockson and Gus Politor, interleters, and Mitch Lyden, catcher-first basemon; assigned them to Edmonlow, PCL NEW YORK—Agreed to one-year contract with Roger Majon, pitcher. SAN DIEGO—Stiped Bob Geren, cotcher, to minor league contract and assigned him to Los years. PCL

SAN DIEGO—Signed Bob Geren, cotcher, to minor league contract and assigned him to Les Veges, PCL.

BASKETBALL

Notional Basketbell Association
NSA—Fined Edde Lee Wilkins, Philodelphia center, \$4.500; and Charles Ookley, New York torward, and Larry Krystkawlak. Utain center, \$3.500 each for flogram fouls.

BOSTON—Reclaimed Bort Kofoed, evend, off wolvers, signed him for rest of season. CHICAGO—Put Carey Williams, guard. on injured list. Staned Jo Jo English, guard. GOLDEN STATE—Put Jeff Graver, guard. on injured list. Activated Latrell Sprewell, guard, from injured list.

HOUSTON—Activated Offs Thorpe, forward, from injured list. Put Tree Railins, center, on injured list.

POOTBALL

Notional Football League

ATLANTA—Put Tim Green, detensive end,
on injured list, Activated Bill Coldbern, detensive end, from practice squad, Resigned John
Buddenberg, quard, to practice squad,
OENVER—Signed Darren Porker, punter,
Activated Allon Manigamery, defensive
back, from injured reserve and Cedric Tilman, wide receiver, irom practice squad, Put man, wide receiver, from practice squad, Put Derrick Russell, wide receiver, an injured reserve. Wolved Rubben Rodrigues, punior, and John Granby, salety. KANSAS CITY—Added John Earle, offen-sive lineman, to practice stood. LA RAMS—Stand Emile Harry, wide re-

wiver. MIAMI--Put Mark Sander, Inebacker, and MIAMI—Put Mark Sonder, linebocker, and Bruce Alexander, cornerbock, an initured re-serve. Sjamed Cliff Odom. linebocker, and Al-fred Jackson, cornerbock. Walved Michael Brandon, defensive end, from practice studd. Activated Agran Craver, running back, from Initured reserve, put him on practice squad. NEW ENGLAND—Put Mariam Hobby, de-fensive end, on Initured reserve. Signed Rob McCowart. Resburses. McGavern, Naebacker. N.Y. JETS—Pul Ken O'Brien, quarterback:

Bloft Thomas, running back; Irv Eolman, tackle; and Dennis Byrd, defensive end, on injured reserve. Re-signed A.B. Brawn, running back; Brefs Miller, tackle; and Mika National Apparents of the properties.

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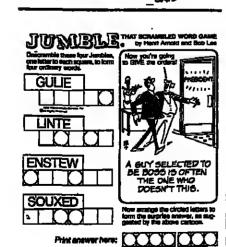
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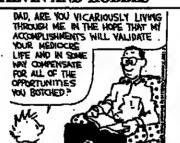
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SPORTS BASKETBALL



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Tom Gugliotta: "I think I've been able to hold my own."

Go-Go Googs: Bullets' Rookie Is a Quick Study

By Tony Kornheiser

ngson Post Service WASHINGTON - You weren't happy

Guess what? You were wrong. The guy you got can run, jump, pass, dribble, rebound and shoot. Honestly, what else is there?

On reflection, Googs managed a victory grin. "Yeah, I think they were very wrong," he said the other night, after helping the Washington Bullets beat the San Antonio Spurs with a performance that has rapidly become routine at home: 22 points, 11 rebounds. "I knew this would be a good team for me. I was the kind of player the Bullets were looking for to fit in with Pervis and Michael and Harvey."

Tom Gugliotta is a work in progress. The surprising thing is how fast he's progressing. As teammate Pervis Ellison observed: "He's got a jump shot, and the other team knows it. He knows they know it, so he's past the first hurdle. Now they have to come up on him, and what Googs has to do is go around them. He can do that too. Bingo!

Shaquille O'Neal has already won the rockie of the year award. If Shaq gets hit by a bus and never plays another game, he still gets the trophy. Everybody else is playing for second, and it's a crowded field; this is the deepest pool of rockies since the 1984 class that produced Michael Lorder Checks Buddet Libra Second Jordan, Charles Bankley, John Stockton, Hakeem Olajuwon, Alvin Robertson, Sam Perkins, Kevin Willis and Otis Thorpe.

Already, Christian Laettner and Alonzo Mourning are thrillers. Lloyd Daniels, La-Phonso Ellis, Walt Williams, Clarence Weatherspoon and Robert Horry are scor-ing in double figures, as was Bryant Stith before he got hurt. Todd Day and Hubert Davis are slightly under. Among all these rookies, including O'Neal, Gugliotta was first in steals through Tuesday's games, third in rebounds—ahead of Mourning and Laettner - third in assists, and fourth in scoring. So now, you're not saying, "Gooooogs," you're saying, "Wow!"

To a degree.

The Bullets saw Gugliotta had the body the day of the National Basketball Association's draft. You weren't sayiog,
"Gooogs," you were saying, "Booooo,"
You didn't want Tom Gugliotta. You
wanted Walt Williams. You wanted Har-Keefe. Everybody said you could throw all the picks between No. 5 and No. 14 in a hat and hold a grab bag.

"If yoo asked people, 95 percent would've said Shaquille would be good from the beginning," Gugliotta said. "But who was I?"

As late as the day Gugliotta signed, there were sources high in the Bullets' organization whispering fretfully, "What if he can't play?" It turns out he can.

It turns out Googs does everything a smidgen better than the Bullets dared hope. The coaches didn't know Googs

Adams said, "I didn't know he could pass because it's wide open compared with colthe ball the way he does; you rarely see lege ball. "It makes everything one-onceed are the ones with self-motivation. No the ball the way he does; you rarely see that in a guy his size."

Harvey Grant is impressed at how "fear-less" Googs is. "Plus," as Lloyd Price used to sing, "he's got a great big heart." They've sent Gugliotta out to guard the roughest, toughest players in the league, like O'Neal, Derrick Coleman and David

"I felt confident I could succeed at this level," Gugliotta said, "But, how early? I expected it to he real tough to get minutes —not only to get minutes, but to produce. I guess the biggest surprise is how prepared I was physically, coming in. I get beat on a lot, but I think I've been able to hold my own."

Then he blushed at what he was about to say next: "This is the first level I have come into feeling I could dive on the floor and come up with a loose ball. Even in the ninth grade I was physically intimidated." Gugliotta thinks the pro game suits him

one, or two-on-two. That helps me," he said. "Not too many 6-10 guys like to come on the perimeter to guard you." If they don't, he can hit jumpers all night; he's shooting 49.5 percent. If they do, he's

gone, bingo, like Ellison said. Still, he's prone to rookie fever. Just look at his lines. Game 1, against Charlotte, he makes 9 of 12 shots; the next night, against Orlando, Googs is one for six. Against Utah, he was unconscious, 17 for 24 and 39 points; the next night, in New York, zero for eight. The Bullets point at this graph and chuckle, "Larry Bird, Big Bird."

This kind of wild fluctuation is endemie to rookies. It's part of the NBA education. "You play once a week - twice, tops, in

college. In the NBA, there are four games in five nights," Ellison explained. "In the pros, you may score 39 one night, but you've got to play the next night "There are a lot of great athletes, guys who can do amazing things with the bas-

Ellison paused, smiled, and continued the lesson: "There's two sides. That's one side. The other side is 'rookie.' The answer to a guy going one for nine the night after he went 8 for 14? You ask anybody in this locker room, the first word out of their

mouth is, 'Rookie.' " Teams have already changed how they play Googs. Which is what happens after you score 39.

ceed are the ones with self-motivation. Not

just the night of the game, the night before

the game. You can't disco all night and

think you're gonna disco on the basketball

"Now when I catch the ball there's somebody there wherever I am on the court," be says. "They're ont giving me the open shot I had early. I guess they're on to

Tommy Gugliotta, a floppy 22 years old and not even once around the league yet, rolled his eyes and giggled.

Orlando's Putting the Magic Back Into the NBA

By Scott Howard-Cooper

Las Angeles Times Service LOS ANGELES - Do you believe in Magic? Do you believe in the Magic? Can you helieve the Magic?

The Orlando Magic, at 8-4 leading the Atlantic Division with a .667 winning percentage, are preaching that the future, the foreseeable future that is, is even brighter. Whatever lies ahead, though, the 4-year-old franchise is

the NBA's team of the hour, drawing attention at every stop with its 20-year-old center, a superstar in the making. With No. 1 draft choice Shaquille O'Neal, the outfit that won 21 games last season, worst in the Eastern Conference, is suddenly one to he reckoned with. And Orlando has four first-round picks in the next two drafts. But if NBA fans are surprised by the Magic, so is the man in charge of putting the team together.

"As we go around the country, we're an attraction, we're selling out buildings," said the general manager, Pat Williams. "But we are not a dominating team. We're trying to keep it all in perspective. Are we a playoff team?

I don't know. That is one of our next goals. Were we expecting this? Would we he happy at 8-4? I

think we would have jumped on it in the summer." It certainly has gang-tackled it in the fall.

O'Neal is, says Williams, "very raw, very inexperienced." He is also averaging 22.4 points, a league-leading 15.3 rebounds and 3.33 blocks per game, and is shooting

Dennis Scott has returned after two operations on bis right leg that limited him to 18 games last season, during which he averaged 19,5 points.

Nick Anderson, Orlando's first college draftee, contin ues to develop into a top swingman, at 6-foot-6 and 205 pounds (1.98 meters, 93 kilometers) a versatile offensive weapon who can post up or show range on a jump shot. Scott Skiles, the gritty point guard, is sixth in the league with 8.3 assists while adding 16.3 points and shooting 54.4

Jeff Turner, the least-known starter despite having played on the 1984 Olympic team, began 1992-93 as a 46.2 percent shooter, but suddenly is shooting 58.6 percent. tops in the NBA.

In all, three starters are hitting better than 50 percent and the team is shooting 49.8 percent and averaging 109.8 points, sixth in the league. The starters are carrying the heavy load, with Turner at 30 minutes a game and the four

others getting at least 37. Last season Anderson led at 36.7.

In 1991-92, Orlando shot 45.3 percent, the lowest in the East, averaged 101.6 points and didn't get its eighth victory until Jan. 17. But the dramatic improvement isn't enough to account for the Magic's becoming a top draw around the league. O'Neal is, though, and road attendance for Magic games, 21st in the NBA last year at 14,949, has jumped to seventh at 17,270.

O'Neal has made the biggest impact, but the real development could not have happened without Anderson and Scott taking advantage of double-teaming in the post by hitting from the ontside. A trade Thursday that brought 3-point specialist Steve Kerr from Cleveland for Orlando's second-round draft choice in 1996 would seem to add even more air cover.

The bonus is that Orlando is off to such a start withour Terry Catledge and Brian Williams. Catledge, who led the team in rebounding last season while averaging 14.8 points, broke his right hand on Nov. 18 and might be out another month. Williams, the first-round pick in 1991. played 22 minutes in four games before going on the injured list because of clinical depression. There is no time

Arkansas Upsets No. 8 Memphis State

known before the college basket- first game of the season for both ball season began, but at this rate, Othella Harrington's name may soon begin making the rounds, too. Mashborn, a preseason All-America, got off to a slow start Wednesday night as he was held without a point or rebound in the

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

with just 10 points and four re-

"Publicity has its positives and negatives," said Mashburn, a 6-foot, 8-inch junior forward. "Tonight I'm up on everybody's chalk

Harrington, meanwhile, scored 20 points in his first college game as No. 14 Georgetown routed St. Leo. Harrington, a 6-10 freshman center, is projected as George-town's next dominating big man, a role previously held by Alonzo Mourning, Dikembe Mutomobo

But college basketball's biggest player this night was Robert Shep-berd, who, at 6-1, was the smallest player on the court as he sparked Arkansas to an upset of No. 8 Memphis State.

Shenherd scored inside on offensive rebounds, popped outside for a key 3-pointer and made five steals in helping Arkansas rally from a 20-point deficit in the first half.
"He went in there a few times

with the big guys and not only got the rebound but stuck the ball back in the hole." said Arkansas' coach, Nolan Richardson

No. 5 Kentucky 81, Wright State 65: Even without much from Mashburn, Kentucky more than enough to win at home in a season Jeff Brassow, Travis Ford and

Mashburn made consecutive 3-

pointers during a late 13-1 run as

the Wildcats expanded a 66-61 Arkansas 81, No. 8 Memphis State 76: The Razorbacks, playing at home, trailed by 46-26 with 3½

nutes left in the first half before

Y

Jamal Mashboro was well beginning their comeback in the

when Shepherd scored on a re-bound basket, capping a 15-0 run. Corey Beck, who played prep ball in Memphis, made two foul shots with 29 seconds left, putting Arkansas ahead 79-76.

Anfernee Hardaway, who led Memphis State with 27 points, first half of No. 5 Kennicky's vic-tory over Wright State. He finished rebounded. That led to two free rebounded. That led to two free throws by Roger Crawford. No. 11 Florida State 67, No. 19

Massachusetts 64: Doug Edwards scored 19 points, and his two free throws with eight seconds left helped Florida State hold off visiting Massachusetts. The Seminoles took the lead for good with 2:11 left when Edwards' tip-in made it 64-62. The Minute-

men closed to 65-64 with 1:04 left on Derek Kellogg's two foul shots, but missed a 3-point try in the final Louis Roe had 19 points and 14 rebounds for Massachusetts.

No. 14 Georgetown 88, St. Leo 49: Duane Spencer, another 6-10 freshman at Georgetown, had 10

rebounds as the Hoyas rouped at Robert Churchwell's 3-pointer

with 13:37 left in the first half ignited a 25-2 run by Georgetown.



Alvin Robertson got a smile and a jump ball from Miami guard Kevin Edwards, Milwaukee got a victory.

Jordan's Absence Again Felt As Celts Belt the Bulls, 101-96

The Boston Celtics, still learning how to play without Larry Bird, have given the Chicago Bulls a lesson in life without Michael Jordan. With Jordan nursing a sprained left foot, the Bulls had oo answer for a second-half rally Wednesday night that gave the Celtics a 101-96

victory and the Bulls, over a span of seven seasons, their fourth straight defeat with Jordan on the sideline. "We would like to prove to ourselves we can play without Mi-chael," said Scottie Pippen, who

missed 14 of his 21 shots The Celtics, after Bird's retirement, got off to a 2-8 start, their worst in 14 seasons, but are 6-9 now after winning four of five. Ironically, Bird was at Boston Garden to attend his first Celtics' game of the season. He saw Reggie Lewis, who has struggled as his successor as the go-to guy, wind up with 32 points, 7 assists and 4 steals
— all season-highs — and turned
the game around with 8-for-9

shooting in the third quarter.

Boston trailed by 51-44 at halftime before Lewis scored 16 points in the third period as Boston outscored Chicago, 34-19, for a 78-70

"It's great to win the game with Larry in the stands for the first

time." Lewis said. "They really utilized him in the third quarter," Pippen said of Lewis. "He really got me fatigued."

Boston hit 68 percent of its shots

in the third period, while the Bulls sank 39.1 percent.

"Their defense got us back on our beels and, offensively everything seemed to click for them,"

said the Bulls' coach, Phil Jackson. We took some shots that were unwarranted, and we shied away from shots we should have taken. Hornets 111, Warriors 110: Charlotte handed Golden State its fifth loss in six home games behind Larry Johnson's career-high 36 points, which included making 18 of 19 free throws and a go-ah imper with 1:04 left.

Johnson made 18 straight foul shots before missing his 19th, which would have tied the NBA

tied by Bill Cartwright (1981) and Adrian Dantley (1987). Bucks 100, Heat 97: Milwankee matched Portland with the best record in the NBA at 10-3 as Frank Brickowski had 23 points and 10 rebounds against visiting Miami. Blazers 112, Pacers 103: Reserve

forward Cliff Robinsoo scored a NBA HIGHLIGHTS

eareer-high 31 points, rallying Portiana trom a 16-point dei

victory in Indianapolis. The Blazers rallied despite having only one starter, point guard Terry Porter, on the floor in a three-guard alignment. Porter, who scored 21 points, gave Portland the lead for good at \$1-80 on a drive with 10:39 left.

Nets 122, Hawks 115: New Jersey took advantage of Kevin Willis's ejection with two technicals to win at bome against Atlanta.

Detrick Coleman, who missed

the last two games with back prob-lems, led the winners with 21 points, while Drazen Petrovic had

Spurs 96, 76ers 82: David Robinson had 27 points and a season-high 21 rebounds as San Antonio. on the road, handed Philadelphia its fifth consecutive loss.

Missing Jordan

The Associated Press BOSTON - How important is Michael Jordan to the Chicago Bulls? Consider:

He sat out 64 games in the 1985-86 season, his second in the NBA, with a broken foot. The Bulls posted a 30-52 re-cord. They finished fourth in the Central Division, but 27 games behind Milwaukee and just four ahead of last-place

Before the loss Wednesday ight, Jordan had missed just three other games in seven sea-sons, and Chicago lost them all — 104-95 to Boston in 1988-89, and 126-114 to Phoenix and 115-100 to Cleveland

He was hurt in two of those games, and in the third served a one-game suspension for bumping a referee.

"That's 33 points we're missing," the Bulls' coach, Phil Jackson, said Wednesday. He said be told his players "they may have to get used to this. It may be more than one game."

Court Awards Reynolds \$27 Million in Suit

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A federal judge on Thursday awarded \$27.3 million to Butch

Reynolds in the runner's lawsuit against the ruling body of international track and field. The total figure in damages and punitive damages was the amount that Reynolds sought in his challenge to his suspension on

allegations that he used steroids. U.S. District Judge Joseph Kinneary found that Reynolds, the world record-holder in the 400 meters, lost \$6.8 million during the twoyear suspension by the International Ama-

tenr Athletic Federation. In addition, he awarded \$20.5 million in punitive damages. Kinneary also found that the IAAF was malicious in its treatment of Reynolds.

The IAAF refused again Thursday to acknowledge the legitimacy of Reynolds suit. It contends that U.S. courts have no jurisdiction over it, and the IAAF's president, Primo Nebiolo, has said the group will never accept a decision of any court against IAAF rules. Reynolds, who starred at Ohio State and

lives in Columbus, was suspended Aug. 12,

1990, after track officials said he had tested

positive for steroids at a meet in Monte Carlo. He has maintained his innocence.

The U.S. Supreme Court in June allowed Reynolds to run in the U.S. Olympic trials. He failed to qualify, but reached the 400-meter trials finished fifth and earned an alternate's position on the 1,600-meter relay team. But the International Olympic Committee refused to allow him to compete in Barcelona.

Because he ran in the trials, the IAAF

extended his two-year suspension to Jan. 1. Reynolds won the silver medal at the 1988 Games. He also set the world record of 43.29 seconds in 1988 in Zurich.

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OBSERVER

The Short-Movie Policy

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — People said you had to see "Malcolm X." It was a news event. Everybody would be talking about it. It would be the basis for a new philosophy. If you hadn't seen "Malcolm X," you'd have no right to take part in the great policy debates it would

It made "Malcolm X" sound like a course in civics. What ever happened to going to the movies for the fun of it? Even movies that are supposed to be simple-minded fun for the simple-minded are hard to take nowadays. Look at the typical shoot-'em-up. If you like watching heart-transplant surgery and enjoy sitting through a good autopsy you'll love movies of the "Rambo" and "Terminator" school.

The publicity about "Malcolm X" made it sound like spinach: not much fun, but good for you. I fig-ured it had to be seen. My life is a testament to the power of the notion that mankind should never flinch from things that are good for it, no matter how funless they be.

I eat not only spinach but also brussels sprouts and cauliflower. I took physics and calculus in school, though oeither was required and both humiliated me. I read Marcel Proust's "Remembrance of Things Past" and, despite medical warnings, remain determined to read

wrote. Such has been my enslavement to the proposition that humanity ought to improve itself through suf-fering. When it comes to movies, however, my policy has changed. The change occurred long ago after I spent two or three weeks watching

Like calculus, "Gandhi" was supposed to be good for you. It made Gandhi out to be a preposterously boring man of inhuman oohility. I was amazed, having supposed that it would take a very interesting, flawed man to clear the

When "Gandhi" finally stopped, I adopted a policy change affecting movies. Thereafter any movie that was good for you had to do its good work in less than 2 hours and 16 minutes. If it didn't I was entitled

To compensate, I would spend an extra hour each day for a week reading something that was not fun, but good for me. This policy not only excused me from a 3-hourand-8-minute experience with

"JFK," but also enabled me to read 17 pages of Henry James and, best of all, let me leave the room quietly whenever people who had seen "JFK" started quarreling about the Warren Commission.

Except for the post-"Gandhi" policy, I would not only have had to see "JFK" but also read the Warren Commission report, a veritable Everest of legal and federal prose beside which Henry James's The Golden Bowl' seems as frothy as reading "Peter Rahbit" in a shaded Cotswolds glade. When I heard that "Malcolm X" was in the "Gandhi". "JFK" ball-

park - three hours and then some my policy left no choice. It had to be passed up until it is cut to 2 hours and 15 minutes, which is probably a good idea. Practically everything can be made better with cutting, and that includes Henry James. Yes, especially newspaper

So instead of seeing "Malcolm X," I saw "Bram Stoker's Dracula." Why? The publicity hinted that it was not at all good for you. and the alternative was a retread of "Home Alone," which is basically Woody Woodpecker" with hu-

Are "Home Alone" movies giving children the impression that a cute kid is more than a match for the famously murderous thugs? every book Heary James ever The spirit of W. C. Fields, who is said to have despised cute kids. lurks behind these movies. Their deeper aim may be to tempt cute kids to invite obliteration when felooy is afoot.

Professional reviewers, who probably see too many movies for their readers' good, have abused the latest "Dracula" unjustly. True, it has absolutely nothing on its mind except special effects, but these are entertaining in a silly way. Like most movies, it is also too long, and this lets the audience realize it's boring.
But "Dracula," of course, has

always been boring. Stoker's book is boring. The Bela Lugosi classic is boring after that smash opening in Transylvania. The new version's special effects and sexual explicitoess keep jolting the audience awake, Lacking these resources, the 1931 Lugosi "Dracula" was con-tent to call it a show after a more hour and 15 minotes.

If "Gandhi" had been so wise, this column would have been about "Malcolm X." New York Times Service

Rob Reiner: Out of His Father's Shadow

By Bernard Weinraub New York Times Service

OS ANGELES - For Rob Reiner. L the film "A Few Good Men" carries remarkable personal resonance. Not that Reiner has served in the navy or faced a high-stakes military trial, which is the centerpiece of the movie.

Instead, the 45-year-old director identifies almost eerily with the navy lawyer Daniel Kaffee (played by Tom Cruise), whose glih, wise-guy style masks intense fears about living in the shadow of a fa-ther, now dead, who was a renowned naval attorney general.

"In all my films," said Reioer, who had struggled for years to move out of the shadow of his own father, the writer and director Carl Reiner. "I've got to find something I can book up with, connect with. Kaffee is in the same business as his father; I'm in the same business as mine. Everywhere I went when I started out, it was 'Carl Reiner this,' 'Carl Reiner that.' He's the nicest man in the world, incredibly sweet-natured, but it was frightening to be compared to bim."

The film opens next Friday in the U.S. to a blizzard of promotion, largely because of its high-powered stars. Along with Cruise, the cast ioclodes Jack Nicholsoo. playing a hard-edged, highly decorated Marine colonel, as well as Demi Moore as a member of Kaffee's defense team.

Adapted by Aaron Sorkin from his 1989

Broadway play, the movie traces a navy lawyer's quest for justice in the case of two marines accused of murder because of their punishment of a Marine private at the U.S. Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. The question to be resolved: did the Marines act on their own, or were they obeying

"What we're dealing with here is a very strong moral dilemma," Reiner said, seated on a cream-colored sofa in his airy, vaguely Southwestern-styled office in Beverly Hills. "Where do you draw the line between being loyal and following orders, and acting on your own when something is immoral or illegal. It's the same moral dilemma the Nazis dealt with at Nuremberg, or Calley at My Lai. And it doesn't just apply to the military. We all live in corporate or business cultures. We're all subordinate to somebody else. We all have to make decisions about what's right and what's wrong."

At the center of the moral dilemma is

the lawyer Kaffee, who was played hy Tom Hulce on Broadway. "I got a call from Rob, who said he wanted to direct the movie," Cruise said, "and I should see the play. I called him that evening and said, 'I'm in.' Reiner, who is unpretentious and gre-

garious, enjoys working with actors but ilso spends an unusual amount of time with writers, revising scripts line by line. According to Sorkin, the drama, which received mixed reviews but ran for more

than a year, was almost entirely overhauled

Rob Reiner finds in his films "something I can book up with, connect with."

for the movie. The "smoking gun" in the Broadway play (a doctored logbook) was eliminated from the film. Reiner apparently have the intelligence and the talent. felt that with a smoking gun, you didn't oeed a brilliant lawyer. Instead, he wanted the character of Kaffee to be cumning. show-business house, he really did it all by

"It was done page by page," Sorkin said of the revision process. "It was loud and intense and passionate work. If someone in the script asked for a glass of water, Rob would ask, 'Why a glass and oot a cup?' He kept saying. How does this fit into the puzzle? The script had to be rock solid. He von't let you get away with one extra line.

He occided every question answered."

Sorkin described Reiner as "very articulate" about his yearning to focus on the father-son elements. "It came through very loud when we were working on the movie," he said, "He would tell me stories about how difficult it was to grow up being the son of a famous father.

Roh Reiner is the oldest of three children of Carl and Estelle Reiner, "It wasn't easy for him, because he was impatient and he knew what he wanted," said Carl

"Rob was a self-starter. He oever asked for money. He oever asked for introduc-tions. Even though he was horn into a

The son said that it took years for him to distance himself from his father. "When I was a little kid, I wanted so badly to be like him I once said to him I want to change my name. And he said, To what? And I said, 'To Carl.'

. Apparently unready to leave the subject of childhood and separation behind, Reioer will next direct a fantasy called "North," based on a novel hy Alan Zweibel, a television comedy writer. The movie concerns a 9-year-old boy who decides to become emancipated from his parents. Over the last six years Reiner's hits have included "Stand by Me." The Princess

Bride," "When Harry Met Sally . . . " and "Misery," Yet he has sometimes been criticized for, in the words of one leading

producer. "playing things a little too safe, not quite pushing the envelope further or

being more of a heavyweight."

But Reiner seems to be satisfied with his choices; his priority is finding stories that strike a personal chord. One was Stephen King's novel "Misery." which he turned into the 1990 film about a writer, played by James Caan, who is trapped and kept prisoner by a lunatic fan (Kaihy Bates).

"It was very personal in a weird way." said Reiner, who perversely saw "Misery" as the story of a man, not unlike himself, who was trying to branch out creatively. "Here I was, a television actor for eight years," he said of playing Meathead. Ar-chie Bunker's son-in-law, in the long-run-ning CBS series "All in the Family." "I was famous, and everyooe knew me. and I wanted desperately to become a film director. And it was very hard for people in this community to accept that. It took me

years."
Similarly, he found personal resonance in the 1989 romantic comedy "When Harry Met Sally . . ," which portrayed a couple (Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan) treading the delicate line between friendship and romance. Reiner, who divorced the director Penny Marshall in 1981 after 10 years of marriage, said that the movie was born out of my experience of being thrown out in the dating world and being very confused about whether you could be friends with a woman, or did sex always have to come into the equation."

(Since 1989, Reiner has been married to Michele Singer, a photographer, they bave a 1-year-old son.)

Reiner has been able to pursue such visions because of his relationship with Castle Rock, one of the larger and more successful independents. His total control over casting and production is rare. So, for "Misery." he cast Caan, whose career was then in the doldrums, and Bates, a stage actress who was virtually unknown on the screen.

Had Reiner worked at a studio, the Caan-Bates casting would have been virtu-ally unthinkable. Bates, who won an Acade-my Award for the part of the deranged fan. Annie Wilkes, said of the director: "He and I really played Annie together. His eye was

always in sync with my emotions."

Reiner considers his breakthrough to be "Stand by Me," a critically well-received movie about boyhood friendships that opened two years later.

"It was a rite-of-passage film," he says. "It was closer to my personality than anything I had done up to then, and it's something my father oever would have come near. When I was making it, I kept thinking, 'Boy, I hope this works, because if it doesn't I'll be in serious trouble.' The audience would have been rejecting me when I was taking my first departure from my father, venturing into a new area."

Does be still think about what would have happened had the film failed. "All the time," said Reiner, without a smile.

PEOPLE

Kennedys Say JFK Book Is Full of 'Falsehoods'

Senator Edward M. Kennedy and his three sisters say a new biogra-phy about President John F. Kenpriv about Pressuent June P. Nea-nedy's youth, which includes alle-gations of child abuse, is full of "outrageous falschoods," "It is preposterous to call any of us 'abused' children," the senator and his sisters — Jean Smith, Emice Shriver and Patricia Lawford — wrote in an article published in The New York Times. "Our parents gave us love, support and encouragement throughout their lives." The Kennedys referred to "misjudgments. mischaracterizations and insinuations" in Nigel Hamilton's book, "JFK: Reckless Youth."

The English artist Francis Bacon left his estate of more than £10 million (\$15.5 million) to his companion. John Edwards. Bacon died in April at 82 of a heart attack.

Julia Roberts, who hasn't starred in a movie since "Hook" last year. has signed a deal with the independent producer Joe Roth to develop projects. Roth, the former 20th Century Fox studio chief, moved to Disney as an independent producer last month.

The former wife of Sir Rudoli Bing wants to see the 91-year-old former impresario of the Metropolitan Opera despite a judge's annul-ment of their marriage in 1990. Lady Carroll Douglass Bing, who eloped with Bing in 1987, asked a New York court for an opportunity to see him. His lawyers say that Bing, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. has no memory of the marriage.

Fergie oo the move: The Duchess of York visited a hospital in Poland and gave young cancer patients copies of her book for chil-dren, "Budgie the Helicopter."

The jingle, the rumble and the roar sounded once again as Roy Acuff's "Wabash Cannonball" filled the air at a memorial service in Nashville for the man known as "the king of country music," Acuff, who died Nov. 23 at age 89, was honored by some of the genre's greatest: Chet Atkins, Eddy Arnold, Little Jimmy Dickens, Bill Monroe, Ricky Skaggs and Jeannie Seely.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED Appears on Page 4

D New York Times, edited by Eugene Maleska.

WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday **North America** The Midwest and Northessi-em states will be guide and over the weekend. However, some sunstrine with be-around each day in Chicago, Toronto and New York City. San Francisco will heature some sunstrine Saturday, then cain might move in on Sunday.

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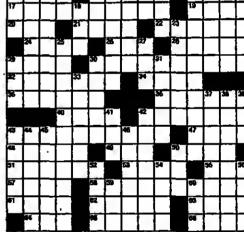
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BOOKS

THE CALL OF THE TOAD By Günter Grass. Translated by Ralph Manheim. Illustrated by the author. 248 pages. \$19.95. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.

Reviewed by Herbert Mitgang

NEVER expect the expected from Gunter Grass, one reason he continues to be Germany's gaged essayist. Grass is what Germans call a Querdenker, someone whose thought cuts in a risky, origi-oal way against the grain.

And so he does, in novel after novel since "The Tin Drum." Two years ago, in a book of essays titled Two States - One Nation?," Grass countered popular celebration and predicted the economic

and social troubles that occurred after the Berlin Wall came down, and continue. He advocated confederation, not unification of the two Germanys.

Now, in "The Call of the Toad," his most linear and readable oovel in recent years, he seems to be calling for greater tolerance between the crisscrossed people of Gdanak (formerly Danzig), the city that hovers culturally between Poland and Germany, depending upon who won the latest war. Grass relates his story in the guise of a romance between two appealing personalities in their mature years: a widower from Germany and a

widow from Poland. But don't jump to conclusions, the author quickly seems to inform that easy for you to simply accept my couple as human symbols of

political unity. Most of the novel conveys an uncommon warmth between its main characters, but by the end of the story we are back in familiar Grass country, where the croaking of toads is a prophecy of doom in the dark night of Europe. But, in "The Call of the Toad,"

love does not yet conquer all. Na-tionalism and tribalism endure in civilized times. Grass introduces himself as the tolerant narrator standing at a distance from his characters. An old schoolmate (the widower) has bequeathed him a packet of diaries, notebooks, let-ters, bills marked paid and fading photographs. At first the author is a little annoyed by the intrusion upon his time and friendship, but as he unfolds the packet, he finds himself challenged to reconstruct Chatterjec, who starts a bicycle-its random contents into a story.

Surprisingly, the author permits traffic and pollution problems in

himself to be romantic about his two-nation couple: "He had fallen for her, she for him." They will remain in love for the rest of their lives, life beginning for them at about the age of 60 in the novel. Alexander, the German widow-

er, is a professor and art historian: he was once in Hitler's youth corps and is burdened by wartime images. Alexandra, the Polish widow, is an art restorer, once a loyal Comminist Party member, she lives with the memory of Jewish schoolmates lost in the Holocaust. Indeed, everybody in Gdansk-Danzig seems troubled by a less-than hero-Grass creates a marvelous sec-

ondary character in the person of

an enterprising Bengali named

novel, calling up memories of "The

Herbert Mitgang is on the staff of The New York Times.

idea of becoming human wheels, hut in hard times a living is a living. In the author's keen double vision, the Bengali represents the prejudice against foreigners and the wisdom of the Orient Guilt about the Third Reich still hovers in the background of the

Europe. At first, the Poles resist the

And the American-led war in the Gulf does not receive Grass' seal of approval. For as Alexander and Alexandra watch television before leaving on a fateful trip to Naples, they see fleeing Kurds, burning oil wells, raging fires, victory procla-mations and another war "whose dead no one wanted to count."

By Alan Truscott

N OLD Latin maxim insists A N OLD Latin maxim missis that the law does not concern itself with small things. But that does not apply to bridge players, who must worry about small cards and small scoring advantages. The player who throws away an imp or two usually escapes unpunished, but once in a while a small lapse

A recent playoff match between junior squads, players under 25, decided whether Australia or New Zealand would represent the South Pacific zone in the 1993 World Ju-Zealand won by just one imp, 321-320, and the Australians home disconsolate.

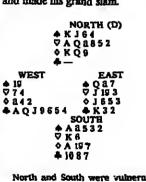
ing in clubs, and North chose to use Blackwood. A cue-bid of five clubs and made his grand slam.

BRIDGE

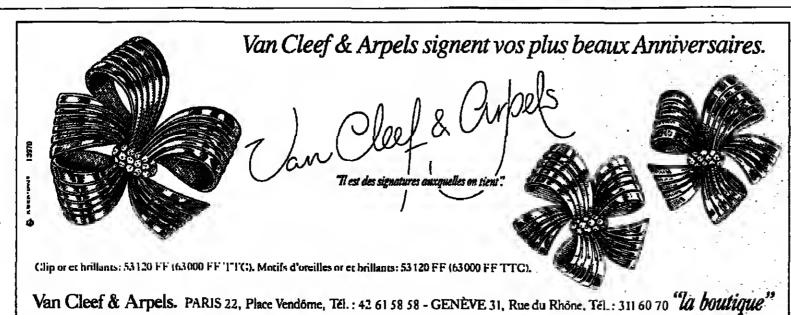
There was some confusioo cansed by East's five-club bid. South's pass should have shown either three keycards or none, in the partnership style. North assumed the latter and signed off in five spades, causing South to gam-ble on a grand slam. This turned out to be a borderline contract, 53 percent as against the 57 percent required in theory.

After ruffing the opening club lead, the declarer thought carefully about the trump suit. He then led a spade to dumny's king and had to think again when West produced the ten. The bidding made it more New Zealand was slightly lucky likely that West had begun with a on the diagramed deal. West singleton spade ten than with a crowded the auction by pre-empt- doubleton Q-10.

South therefore finessed the nine



led the club ace.



Russian Eggs at the Library of Congress

By Jura Koncius

hington Post Service WASHINGTON — At first glance, the hand-painted lacquered wood eggs on sale at the Library of Congress gift shop seem like novel souvenirs of Washington, highlighting attractions like the-White House, the Supreme Court and the Capitol. But on closer examination, it's obvious that the

Each of the six designs done on a black background evokes the feeling of a Russian fairy tale, with lots of snow, deep shadows and even a few horse-drawn

These miniature-egg paintings were commissioned by Anna Lee, the retail marketing officer of the Library of Congress shop, from the New York firm of Alexandra Internacional, which has been doing business with Russian craftsmen for 14 years.

The company, which imports bundreds of Russian

painted dolls, has the Library of Congress's custom-designed eggs painted cottage-industry style by deaf artisans in St. Petersburg. Each egg is signed and there is a 1,500-piece limited

edition of each design. They sell for \$29.50 apiece. "There's a lot of very bad Russian merchandise out there," says Nicholas Roberts, one of the partners of Alexandra International, which sells its finely crafted products primarily through jewelry stores and muse-um shops, like Washington's Hillwood Museum and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. artists who created these American scenes were Rus-

"Maybe some of it has been a fad business in recent cars. But there have always been collectors of fine Russian pieces such as those of our quality." Among today's most popular collectibles are the traditional wooden nesting dolls depicting deposed Soviet leaders in the guise of Russian babushkas. Stay tuned for a new twist on this at the Library of Congress shop, if Lee and Roberts can pull it off. It will be a set of nesting Russian-made dolls featuring

the likes of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson items from buried boxes to jeweled silver eggs to hand and Abraham Lincoln.